Field Notes
R. M. Anderson
Book IV.
1909
June to August.

Field Notes

June 23rd, 1909, to
August 21st, 1909.

From west side of delta of Colville River, Arctic Coast, Alaska, up the Colville to mouth of Itkillik River, down Colville to Beechey Point, east to Flaxman Island and Demarcation Point, Alaska, and Herschell Island, Yukon Territory, Canada.

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BOOK IV.

Vocalbec

Pectoral Sandalwood

1909. V5

Camp about 7 miles West of Colville River delta, Alaska

June 23rd (Wednesday) M.T. +38° F.

Weather

+52° at 7:00 a.m. +59° (in sun) at 12:00 M. +51° (in sun) at 1:30 p.m. Wind from S.E. 9:00 a.m. to 12 M. Cloudy, with N.E. wind, after 4:00 p.m. Went out in morning and took set of Pectoral Sandpiper (Tringa maculata ♯ 30/2), from nest found last night; two eggs, with well-formed embryos. Shot ♀ bird as she fluttered away from nest (♯ 277. ♀ T. maculata). She would have laid no more eggs for some time, as eggs in ovary were very small. Nest composed of a very few dead leaves and grasses lining a little depression in the ground; well-concealed by grasses 8–10 inches high bending over nest. Although I saw ♀ fly from nest, and had placed a stick about six feet from the nest last night, I could not find it again until I had looked closely for some time. The ♀ Pectoral Sandpiper does not have the swollen neck and breast which the ♂ has at this season. Went out with V. Stefansson to gather in two nests of Lapland Longspur which he had found

Pectoral Sandpiper

Lapland Longspur

June 23 (Wednesday). C. lapponicus

Earlier in the morning. Flushed ♀ Longspur from nest in each case, and also saw the ♂'s around nest. The first nest (Set 3/4), four fresh eggs, was placed in the side of a little hummock of turf and well arched over; composed of grasses and moss, lined with fine grass and feathers; situated near foot of hill, about ¼ mile from coast. Second nest (Set 3/2), five slightly incubated eggs, on dry ground, near top of high mud bank overlooking beach coast; scarcely concealed by short grass, growing in small patches from smooth flat moss-covered bank. Saw ♀ Longspur sitting on nest when I was only about 8 ft. from nest.

Went to a little patch of dwarf willows where W.S. had seen a pair of Willow Ptarmigan Earlier. We soon saw the ♂ and when S. shot at it, the ♀ flew up from near his feet. We could find no nest, however. A flock of 12 Hutchins Geese (Branta canadensis hutchinsii) alighted on tundra near coast, and crawling up behind a little range, fired together killing two, at 57 and 60 yds. respectively.

Lapland Longspur

Willow Ptarmigan

Hutchins's Goose

June 23 (Wednesday).

*279. ♂ B. canad. hutchinsii: L. 30 1/4; W. 16 1/2; T. 5 1/4; B. (culmen) 1 3/4; B. (depth) 1 1/16; Ts. 3 1/8; Tcl. 3 1/4; Bare portion of tibia, 3 in. Tail 18-feathered. Bill and feet black; iris brown. White cheek patches separated by 1/4 in. wide median stripe of small, short black streaks. Testes very small for season.

Loaded all our goods on umiak for first time, about two tons, including people. Boat draws less than one foot of water loaded. Took photo of same (loaded). *280. Umiak, facing west. 8-1/00. Bright Sunshine, 11:00 a.m. Started East, following a narrow lead of shore water for about two miles, and were compelled to stop by shoal water over sunken ice, about 12:30 p.m. Plenty of driftwood all along this portion of coast. Very little water upon ice outside. Many Blue-bottle flies numerous around tent today.

P. found a nest of Black Brant (Branta nigricans) containing five fresh eggs, Set *33 51 near edge of a small lake. The Brant was seen on the nest. Nest composed of a mass of gray down lining a little hollow in the ground. Many Brants seen but only one nest found.

Skull of Goose.

Travel.

Nest of Brant.

Weather

June 24 (Thursday). +36° at 9:00 a.m. Slight rain at intervals after 6:00 a.m. Light S.W. wind from 6:00 a.m. until 12 M., when wind shifted to N.E. Cloudy most of day, but bright sunshine all the time after 6:00 p.m. Started east with loaded umiak at 8:45 a.m. I followed shore to hunt and bring dogs along; other people in boat. Followed a narrow lead of shore water around a little bay, lined with much driftwood. In some places water free from ice near shore, but in some places ice lay on bottom, under water. In two instances the boat was forced through masses of floating rotten ice by breaking up the masses with paddles. Found wider area (ca ¼-½ mi) of open water about 3 miles further on, but too shallow for heavy boat, so we put back and made camp at 11:30 p.m. at a little headland near the last available camping site with wood. at mouth of a little creek. A

Travel

Saw ♂ and ♀ Willow Ptarmigan, and dog apparently found nest as I saw freshly broken egg-shells on the ground.

Willow Ptarmigan

Snow Buntings were numerous everywhere among the piles of driftwood on beach, but seldom far from the coast.

Snow Bunting

General trend of coast West — 23 ℔ by prismatic compass

June 24 (Thursday).

Searched in vain through a large patch of drift logs for a nest of Snow Bunting, although both ♂ and ♀ were hopping about not far away. Went about 75 yds. away and sat down to watch. Within five minutes the ♀ returned to the pile, and slipped out of sight. Running up to the immediate vicinity & flushing the bird slipped out from behind a large log, and a little search disclosed her nest on ground between two large logs, upon which a third smaller log had lodged, roofing over the space between the logs, and giving the bird access from either end. Nest contained five fresh eggs. Nest composed externally of rotten moss and grass, lined with fine grass and a few feathers. Set 34/5 Plectrophenax nivalis

About a mile further, my dogs running ahead flushed a ♀ Snowflake from the end of a hollow log, and chased madly after her. Nest placed in a rotted-out hollow, about 8 inches deep in end of a hollow driftwood log. Set 35/6. Nest much better built than preceding one, with more moss outside, and more feathers inside.

Snow Bunting.

W. Ptarmigan

June 24 (Thursday).

Saw ♂ and ♀ willow Ptarmigan on low hill near coast, and dogs evidently found nest, as I saw freshly broken Ptarmigan egg on ground. Saw many Old-squaws, a few Black Brant and American White-fronted Geese, one Hutchins's Goose, a few S. Jaeger, several Larg. Gulls. V.S. went out shortly before midnight and sighted a bird (with field-glasses) setting on nest; taking it to be a Loon at a distance, but found out later it was a Parasitic Jaeger's nest, with two eggs.

Parasitic Jaeger

Mosquito.

He also brought in the first Mosquito (Eskimo name- Kik-tó-ri-ak) we have seen this season.

Found part of an old Musk-ox skull (frontal bones, base of skull, and part of each horn-core), water-logged and green with moss, half-buried in mud of bay, about three feet from bank, near mouth of little creek about 2 mi. west of western mouth of Colville River.

Musk-ox

+38 at 10.30 p.m.

June 25th (Friday) +42° at 2.00 p.m., N.E. wind. Dog waded out and chewed up Caribou fawn's skull in boat during night;

June 25 (Friday).

also a few leg bones. Started East with half a load at 2 p.m. to explore Channels. Were obliged to get out of boat and drag it over shoals several times before we struck a deeper channel, with slight current seaward and soon passing between extensive mud-flats. Entered the western branch of the Colville. Landed on shore of a little lagoon, and separated in order to explore on foot. Stefansson and Billy saw some people who were camped on another branch about 1½ mi. to E. Billy was unable to cross river but talked with people across. Retraced our course about ½ mi. and ascended the other channel, tracking up stream with dogs. Eight people camped there, 2 men, 1 woman, 1 boy 3 girls, and a small child, who had come from the main camp at Nicalek that morning to fish. They said all the Colville river people (nine umiaks) had recently come down to Nicalek to fish. They had all been more or less hungry, and were now out of tea, but nobody had starved

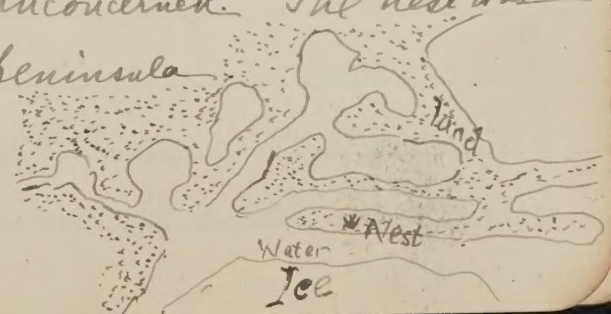
June 25 (Friday)

to death on the Colville the past winter (unusual for the Colville). They told us that the best route to Nicolai was up this channel and down another channel, as the water was too shallow outside the mud flats. They had caught a number of Whitefish already and gave us about a dozen, and we gave them about ½ lb of tea. Cached our load here and returned to old camp with Empty boat. Hunted for a couple of hours to southward over level delta flats but saw only a few White-fronted Geese, a few Eiders and Old-squaws, numbers of tiny Eiders, Lapland Longspurs. Saw several Snowflakes around driftwood patches, but could find no nests. Flushed a ♀ Pectoral Sandpiper, which was soon joined by the ♂ bird, acting as if they had a nest near a small lake, but I could not find it, although I hid for half an hour behind a little ridge, and returned, flushing the birds at same place. One Snowy Owl seen sitting on tundra. After lunch I struck out again, and soon saw

Snowy Owl. Pectoral Sandpiper S.B. Laurel.

June 25 (Friday).

A white bird moving on the opposite bank of a lake about half a mile across. A slight mirage made the bird look like a Ptarmigan but I finally assured myself that it was a whistling Swan walking about. Looking again with the glasses I saw the bird (or its mate) sitting on top of a large black spot (apparently a mass of earth), with head and neck slightly curved. I started around the north end of lake and after encircling an almost interminable chain of connected lakes and ponds, was able to look across an arm of the lake and see the Swan leave her nest (about 300 yds. from me). On a little narrow peninsula and disappear over a little ridge. Soon I saw the pair of Swans (one pure white, the other slightly grayish) walking slowly away, about 300 yds distant. They remained at this distance all the time I was near the nest feeding, apparently unconcerned. The nest was on a very narrow peninsula and almost inaccessible. It was about



June 25 (Friday).

Few feet from the water of lake and about base about four feet above water level. Solid ice across lake except 20–30 yds around edge. Water of small pond a few yards on other side of nest. Base of nest about 7 ft. across; about 18 inches high, and 24 inches across depression at top. Built of nest composed of small blocks and chunks of moss, evidently broken up piecemeal by the birds into bits about 1½ or 2 in. square, and partially dried. On top of this foundation a thick circular mass of grass and weed stalks, mixed with a few feathers and white down. Considerable amount down and feathers were lodged on grass stalks for 15–20 ft. to leeward of the nest. No attempt was made at concealment, and the dark mass of the nest loomed up so conspicuously against the dead grass that at 50 yds. I doubted whether it was a nest after all. Nest contained four eggs — fresh a few days incubation. Set #36/51

Color pale yellowish buff or ecru, unmarked; nearly elliptical in shape. (Olor columbianus)

June 25 (Friday)

Shot one pair of Old-squaws, U.S. shot an American White-fronted Goose and a pair of Spectacled Eiders. Saw many Spectacled Eiders in small pond, and one ♂ King Eider with seven females on a little island. Red Phalaropes very numerous, and Northern Phalaropes scarce; a few Jaegers and Gulls. Saw one apparently new Gull's nest on a small island, but inaccessible, birds hovering over head. Pacific Black-throated Loons on several ponds.

June 26 (Saturday). +43° at 11 3° a.m. N.E. wind Light sprinkle of rain from midnight to 2 a.m. Foggy on delta flats in morning. Bright sunshine after 10 a.m. Saw a pair of Black-throated Loons swim out from near a little island, and, wading out, I found an apparently new nest, but no eggs. Found two nests of Pintail (Dafila acuta), each with two fresh eggs, about 15 ft. apart on a little island in a pond. A small colony of Arctic Terns were hovering around a little lake, but no nests were apparent. A single Swan was seen circling about,

June 26 (Saturday

and crying out "Kog-i-uk!" continuously, about 5 am
about ½ mile from where I had taken the Swans eggs a few hours before. At the same time another pair of Swans alighted in a pond pair of ours about ½ mi. away. (These Swans never got at once. —— went after them with a rifle, fired twice, but missed. Found a Semi-palmated Sandpiper's nest, with three eggs, Set 21/3 about one-third incubated, on ground about 30 yds from pond. Shot both parents, who were running nervously about, "peeping". Keeping about 50 yds away. ♀ flushed from nest. ♂ L. 6¼. W. 3¾. T. 1 1/16 B. 11/16. Ts. 7/8. Tc. 7/8. #280. ♀ Semipalmated Sandpiper L. 6 5/16. W. 3 3/16. T. 1 7/8. B. 11/16. Ts. 15/16. Tc. 15/16. Very slight trace of ochraceous on tips of secondaries only.

Trip home, to old camp, took from 7:15 to 10:45 am with Empty boat. Mud flats steaming in hot sun, causing much fog until after 9 pm., and bad mirage after that. Turned in about noon after being up 29 hrs. and slept for 10 hrs. Took mosquito out of water and dried her meanwhile

June 27 (Sunday). M. T. +36. +42 at 3 am. Up shortly after midnight. Clear, bright sunshine until about 6 p.m. Went out with V.S. for Parasitic Jaeger's nest (found June 24th). Both parents began to circle around the vicinity of nest, screaming as we approached, sometimes alighting for a minute or two. As Stefansson came about 50 yds. of nest, they came over him and he dropped both of them. Eskimo name I-sūng'-ak.

*281. ♀ S. parasiticus L. 21 3/4. W. 13 3/8. T. 9 3/8 (w/tail 18 1/2)

*282. ♂ " " L. 21 1/2. W. 13 3/4. T. 9 3/8 (tail 8)

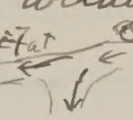
The nest contained two dark-colored eggs (as before). Set. 28/2, slightly incubated. Nest a mere depression in wet green moss with a few bits of grass and sedge on tip of a narrow little peninsula projecting into a small pond about 1/2 mile from coast. Nest only 4-5 inches above water level.

Going back we flushed a ♂ Red Phalarope from a nest on a little ridge about 10 inches above general tundra level, well concealed by grasses. Shot ♂ ad. Four eggs set 2/4; incubation begun.

June 27 (Sunday).
Stopped about 11 am on delta flats to boil tea, after a vain chase after a flock of about 150 Black Brants which were feeding on the low flat ground. Mosquitoes appeared here in numbers for the first time. Found a Lapland Longspur's nest in a little bunch of grass about 100 yds from the river; four young birds and one egg - the first young birds of the season. The season seems to be more advanced as we proceed into the delta. Yesterday we dug a hole in ground a little way from river, through fine sandy silt soil, and found it unfrozen to a depth of 16 inches. On the tundra a few miles west the ground is ~~frozen~~ and 4-5 inches below surface.

Stopped again a little further up stream at a broad sandy and muddy flat - below a high cut bank where we had seen a Black-bellied Plover and some Ruddy Turnstones acting very suspiciously Yesterday. Although we approached the spot very cautiously today, one of the Plovers gave the alarm note

Black-Bellied Plover. Ruddy Turnstones. Mosquitoes. Lapland Longspur. Black Brant.

June 27 (Sunday). Eskimo named B-b-Plover = "Tu'lik"
before we were within 200 yds. of the fork
(river forks here) 

. When we landed
both Plovers were running away very rapidly
stopping occasionally to look around. They
seemed very anxious to lead us away and
would keep a straight line as long as I
followed, but generally circled about
and returned when I reached the sus-
pected nesting site, always keeping well
out of shotgun range. The ground here
was perfectly level, sandy silt, about 6 ft
above river level, and sparsely covered with
small patches of short grass tufts and little
weeds, affording no concealment for nests
V.S. and I started to search the ground very
carefully, walking parallel to river and I
soon found the nest, with two eggs, about
one-half incubated Set $\frac{40}{2}$. Nest was only
a very shallow depression in the ground, about
4 inches across, 1 in. deep; 50 yds from river
Composed of a very few bits of grass and a few
small dead willow leaflets. Although I

Black-bellied Plover.

Black-bellied Plover.

June 27 (Sunday)

could not shoot the birds. I watched them for a long time through field glasses at from 75 to 100 yds. watched them for more than half an hour from a little ridge about ¼ mile away, and although one bird approached the near vicinity of the nest, she did not sit down.

Longspur.

While searching for the Plover's nest I found a Lapland Longspur's nest with four eggs, and I found a nest with four eggs unknown to me. No birds were visible except some Turnstones, Ruddy Turnstone, Redtop Sandpiper, and some small Sandpipers on shore of a little pond not far away. I lay down in grass about 150 yds. away, and in about ten minutes saw a Ruddy Turnstone sneaking through the grass towards the nest, finally disappearing from sight. I approached the nest cautiously, under shelter of river bank, but the bird took alarm before I could get very near, and sneaked off quietly through the grass and ran off across a mud flat to the pond.

Buddy Ternotone

June 27. (Sunday)
I concealed myself again, and the bird returned to the nest within five minutes. She ran off again as I approached but I succeeded in shooting her. #283 ♀ R. Turnstone. Four eggs. Set 4/4 incubation advanced. Nest composed of a few bits of grass and leaves, lining a little hollow (about 3 in. across) in the flat sandy ground, about 50 yds. from river, partially concealed by a thin clump of grass. ♂ bird also seen.

In the meantime, Stefansson had been looking for the nest of another pair of Turnstones, which had been making great demonstrations in the immediate vicinity of the Black-bellied Plovers nest; the ♀ especially nervous, continually uttering tee-wee' tee wee, tee-wee-ee. The ♂ bird also remained near by. We had both searched this ground over several times carefully while looking for the Plovers nest, but V.S. went over the ground again setting up sticks at right angles to river bank, and moving sticks ahead as he finished searching the ground over

Ruddy Turnstone

June 27. (Sunday)

All this searching revealed nothing, although were certain the birds were nesting there. After half an hour had elapsed he returned to the spot, and accidentally stumbled onto the eggs, in plain view, about 50 yds from the Plover's nest. I came up soon and decided to photograph the nest. We waited about 20 ft. from the nest while I went for camera and ♀ bird returned without fear and sat down on nest.

Focused camera on nest at 6 ft. and lay down behind it. The ♀ bird ran around me two or three times, then deliberately walked up to nest and sat down, flying off when I pressed the shutter bulb. I re-set camera and took another picture at same distance, standing beside nest. Took one picture at 3 ft. with portrait lens, and three at 2 ft 8 in. the bird returning to the nest within a few minutes after each exposure. As I had only a short rubber tube for the compressing bulb, I had to lie

June 27 (Sunday)

directly behind the camera with my hand at one side of camera. The bird paid no attention to the click of the shutter, but flew off whenever I tried to turn on another film. The mosquitoes were very troublesome, and although I was often obliged to raise my hand to brush off mosquitoes, while the bird was within 3 ft. of me, she did not take alarm. Often while on the nest or walking the bird would turn her head to snap at mosquitoes. Once, before we found the nest, a Parasitic Jaeger flew over, and both Turnstones attacked it fiercely, flying at the Jaeger from sides and rear, screaming loudly, until the Jaeger took safety in hasty flight.

A number of Sab.(?) Gulls, Arctic Terns, Pectoral Sandpipers, Semipalmated Sandpipers

Reached the new cache on Ik'alok'pik branch of Colville about 7 pm. Eight Eskimos camped here, — widow named Kerut, with unmak, ——— and baby, son of Pannigulak, his wife Dut'kayak, Arragaigat, (Ak'pik's sister), two young girls, and one boy.

Parasitic Jaeger.
See Turnstones.

Travel.

Weather

June 28 (Monday) M.T. +45°. +53° at 12:00 pm -
Cloudy. Wind from N.W. Wind changed to N.E.
at 3:00 pm +48° at 6:00 p.m. Boy brought
in five eggs of "Auk pi lak tuk" (Red Phalarope) two
eggs broken from first set of four eggs; and
one egg left in second nest, and made set to cold
the bird's eggs all fresh. A set of Lapland
Longspurs, four eggs, incubation begun Set 44/4
was taken near camp.

Red Phalarope

L.L.

Willow Ptarmigan were fairly common
along bank of river here, the bank being
composed of little rounded hills, with a
dense growth of spreading 2 ft. willows
from 6 - 2 inches high, forming a thick
tangle under foot in some places. One nest
of beautifully marked eggs, eight in number
incubation begun was found in the morning
in thick grass at edge of willows about
100 yds. from river, & on nest. Set. 43
9

Willow Ptarmigan

In the evening I flushed a ♀ Lapland
Longspur from a nest in tall grass near pond,
& contained three eggs, which I left. Billy

Longspurs

June 28 (Monday).
found a longspur's (Pŭt-ū-kĭ'-lak) nest today with young birds, and one of the boys found one also with young birds.

About 11:30 p.m. Stefansson sighted three caribou about a mile away, on a low hill across the river, moving slowly Westward. Three of us, V.S., Billy, and I, crossed river in kunnuk and went after them. Several large flocks of Eider Ducks flew very near us as we were crossing the tundra, and I flushed a Pectoral Sandpiper which acted as though she might have a nest near by, but we did not have time to look for it. Saw four Black-bellied Plovers.

June 29 (Tuesday). +60° at 6:00 p.m. Day began with cloudy weather at midnight, but air clear. Light NE wind. Dense fog came up from seaward about 12:30 a.m. and lasted until 3:00 a.m. after which sun came out brightly, and the day was very hot; although there was a stiff N.E. wind. Cloudy again after 4:00 p.m.

After going about 4 mile east from camp,

Caribou

June 29 (Tuesday)

We ascended a little hill and again saw the Caribou, who were wandering aimlessly about, occasionally stopping to feed a little. Billy and I started down along a little creek or "coulee" of the river, while Stefansson was to work up slowly from the southwestward. We had not gone very far, and had seen the Caribou standing still about 500 yds. away, and started to work nearer behind a little ridge. Before we had got around a dense fog suddenly enveloped us, coming in from seaward. The deer evidently got our scent very soon for we could not find them. The fog prevented us from seeing more than 150 yds. Soon we heard 9-10 shots apparently a few hundred yards away (really ½ a mile). When they ceased we started in their direction, but had not gone very far, when another fusillade began, and bullets began to sing over our heads, compelling us to lie down in a little ditch until the

June 29 (Tuesday)

firing ceased. Stefánsson had met the three Caribou coming toward him in the fog and killed all at distances averaging about 300 yds. (paced). He had estimated the range at 300 yd. and all bullets struck high or went over. One deer was struck four times (1st) through tip of ear, 2nd) struck anterior & lower end of left scapula, cut upper border rt. scapula, making large hole. (3rd). struck top of left scapula, and passed at about 3 in. further to right at top of right shoulder near cut of 2nd.; (4th) struck just anterior to ant. border rt. ilium, [ilium passed] cut 2 in. ant. and 2 in. to left of base of tail. A large mass of small intestines was protruding from hole when this bullet went out. Intestines unbroken, but mesentery perforated. All the three Caribou were females one year old with short velvet-covered horns. Caribou of this age either sex are called Ang-a-yuk-lé-a-suk by Point Clarence people (according to Billy) and Ang-a-yuk-suk by the Nunatamis.

June 29 (Tuesday).

Caribou

The Caribou were in fair condition, having a little fat on back and around intestines. The skins were in very poor condition, the old hair having been shed in quantities leaving bald patches on neck, jaws, head, ears, while the new hair was so short as to be barely visible. The old hair remaining was very loose and came out in bunches wherever it was handled roughly. Our animal had the skull nearly blown to pieces, and was valueless as a specimen, but I preserved two skins with skulls. Measured all three

	Spec. 3/312 ♀ 284	3/313 ♀ 285	
Length (tip of nose to tip of tail)	68½	67	66½
Tail	7	6½	6
Height at shoulders	36	35½	36½
Depth chest	16	16½	17
Shoulder to hip (Hum. & Fem.)	30	31	33
Girth neck (behind ears)	14	15	14
" " (front of shoulders)	18	20	21
" Chest	38	39	39

Caribou

June 29 (Tuesday). #284 #285

Girth of belly (greatest circum.)	50	47	48
" loins	39	40	41.
" hind leg	18	20	21.
" fore-leg.	11½	12	12.

I remained to measure and skin the three Caribou while V.S. and Billy went back to camp and brought the boat by a round-about course, within 25 yds of the carcasses the trip taking them from 10 A.M. to 5 30 P.M. Mosquitoes were very bad, as the deer were on very flat delta land near the coast. Reached camp about 8 30 P.M. and slept all day. Finished skinning Ears, lips, and feet in evening and next morning.

Flushed a ♀ Northern Phalarope (P. lobatus) from nest on a little isthmus between two lakes. The bird fluttered off the nest into the water and began swimming about near the shore, peeping occasionally. Four fresh eggs. Set. 4/4. Nest composed of a few bits of grass lining a little hollow in the ~~ground~~ moss, partially concealed by grass blades about 3 in. across, ½ in. deep

Northern Phalarope

June 29 (Tuesday)

A set of Red Phalaropes (C. fulicarius) was taken from a nest on a small hummock near end of lake, incubation begun. Set 4 eggs 4/4. Bird was flushed twice from nest, but I could not tell whether it was the male or female. Both parent birds were running about near the nest. The bird flew from the nest when I was about 10 yds away.

A Red Phalarope's nest was found about 50 yds. from our tent today. The bird was very wild and would fly directly up from the nest and go at least 100 yds. before alighting if anyone came out of the tent and walked half a dozen paces in the direction of the nest. Looked at the nest several times, but on only one occasion could I make sure that the ♂ bird was sitting on the nest.

A Spermophile Marmot was seen on two occasions near camp and Billy set two traps but caught nothing. Several were seen on pingos across the river.

Red Phalarope

Spermophile

June 30 (Wednesday) +52° at 12 M. Wind S.W. Fine at Camp 400 yds up the river saw two deer (♀ with fawn) and heard four shots, but could not tell whether deer were shot. Four people (two tents) are camped on another branch of the river a mile or two further up. Several Mammals seen near camp and Stefansson shot one ♀. 445-128-63.

*304. Spermophilus parryi. ♀ Colville delta. 6-30-[illegible]

V.S. went out hunting and returned after shooting three ♂ Spectacled Eiders. He had also found two Phalarope's nests and one of Hutchins's Goose. He saw the Goose with field-glasses sitting on her nest on a little island but she flew away when he came near. The water was too deep for him to wade out, although he could see the eggs. We at once went out together and saw the two Geese (B. canadensis hutchinsii) in grass on mainland about 50 yds from nest. They flew across the lake about 350 yds. We returned about and hour later, and wounded one of the Geese, but could

June 30 (Wednesday).

Hutchins's Goose.

not catch her. The nest was on a little island of peat about 6 ft. in diameter, flat, and about 1 ft. above water level, 15 yds. from mainland. Nest a mass of grass and coarse weed stems arranged in a circular form on the ground, lined with finer grass and much light gray down; about 6 in. in diameter, 2 in. deep (inside). Five eggs, incubation about 4 days, slight. Set 5/5. B. c. hutchinsii. (Ex-rau-til'-ik)

Semipalmated Sandpiper.

Spent some time looking for the nest of a Western Semipalmated Sandpiper on a little ridge near the Goose's nest, but could not find it. The bird kept running nervously about, "peeping". Took a set of the same species on the other side of the lake, about ¼ mile away, which U.S. had found and marked. Set 5/4, incubation slight. Saw no sign of the bird the first time we came there, but returned again 15 minutes later, flushed the ♀ from nest and shot her. ♀. L. 6 1/16 W. 3 5/8 T. 1 3/4 B. 11/16. Ts. 15/16 Tc. 13/16. Nest on a little ridge in tundra between two lakes, about 3 in. across,

June 30 (Wednesday).

¼ inch deep; composed of a few small dead leaves and bits of grass lining a hollow in a bunch of moss. Bird known here as Li wā' li wak; Tit wihluk' (Point Clarence). The first name is evidently onomatopoetic.

Took another nest of Red Phalarope Set 4/4. Four eggs, incubation begun. Saw ♂ bird sitting on nest at distance of five feet. When I tried to come nearer he fluttered about 10 ft. away and crouched down in the grass with feathers ruffled out. Nest about 3 in. across, 1 in. deep, composed of fine grasses and a few leaves lining a little hollow in low wet tundra near a small lake.

Red Phalarope

The next nest, Northern Phalarope Set 4/4 Four slightly incubated eggs, was found yesterday morning. Flushed parent bird (sex ♀) from nest. It was immediately joined by its mate and they remained within 50 yds. while we were near the nest. Nest composed of a few grasses and leaves lining a little hollow in low mossy tundra between two ponds.

Northern Phalarope.

June 30 (Wednesday)

about 3 in. across, 1 in. deep. There seemed to be quite a little colony of Northern Phalaropes (Ka-yi-i-o-tit) in this vicinity — 8 or 10 pairs being seen. I found my other nest near here yesterday. The Northern Phalaropes seem to be much less common than the Red Phalaropes (at least 1 to 20) and locally distributed, while the Red Phalaropes are everywhere.

Northern Phalarope

Shortly before reaching camp we found another Red Phalarope's nest Set 5-2-3. Three slightly incubated eggs. ♂ flushing ♂ from nest in a bunch of grass at edge of a little grassy marsh. Nest a few grasses lining a little hollow in the ground, partially concealed by long dead grass.

Red Phalarope

Collected in the set of Red Phalarope Set 4-1-4 found yesterday near camp. Four slightly incubated eggs. ♂ flushed from nest several times, very wary, flying directly away whenever nest was approached. Nest on flat, grassy, tundra, about 50 yds. from river channel. It is a wonder that the dogs have

June 30 (Wednesday).

not found the nest as they have been continually running across the nest during the three days we have camped here, and have often chased the bird. The dogs are continually searching for eggs, etc., but always chase madly after any bird that flutters along the ground, and are generally led away from the nest. The bird's simplest decoy moves seem to fool the dogs completely, although they only serve to help a man find the nest.

U.S. Killed #286. ♂ Black-bellied Plover also ♂ and ♀ King Eider. Saw one other Black-bellied Plover flying about over a long ridge across river from camp, but the bird was too wary for me to approach.

Cloudy all day. +43 at 11th p.m. Sun came out about midnight. Slight rain from 6 to 10 p.m. Broke camp about 7 p.m. and started for Nirlik. The Eskimos here accompanied us, taking part of our cargo in their umiak. Shortly after starting,

Ivik Kaalthorpe.

Dan-B. River

King Eider

Walker.

Travel.

June 30 (Wednesday).

The wind caught them sail too strongly, they tried to swing around and lower sail, but their mast snapped off before they could lower. Our boat (having no sail) was being towed and jammed into bank pretty hard before we could stop her. Followed broad winding channel into a broad estuary about 2 mi. West of Nurlit. Strong S.W. wind made sea run pretty high, and we shipped considerable water before we landed on east side. Had to carry half of load ashore through 50 yds. of mud and water before we could drag boat near to shore and unload the rest. Bay very shallow. Dog had much difficulty in swimming across and Stefansson had to go two or three miles around bay after "Lindy" and "Whisky". Saw two flocks of Hutchins Geese, several Ruddy Turnstones, Laplands Longspurs, Pectoral Sandpipers, Semipalmated Sandpipers on flats near mouth of river. Considerable large drift timber on East bank of estuary. Tried to row empty umiak across for dogs, but could make no headway against wind - & then paddling

July 1 (Thursday). + M.T. +34° +36° at 5h30 a.m. +38½ at 10h a.m. Wind S.W. all night. Snow for a little while about 4h a.m. +51° (in sun) at 2h30 p.m. Very light N.E. wind in afternoon. Stefánsson returned to camp about 4h a.m. bringing two dogs, which he had found wandering about ~~chasing geese~~. He killed one Loon.

#287. ♀ ~~Black-throated~~ Pacific Loon, Gavia ~~arctica~~ pacifica (ovaries small).

The Blk-thr. Loon is called Mā-lē-rē.
Red-throated Loon = Kax-a-rauk. Yellow-throated Loon = Tūh-lik.

Got a set of Pectoral Sandpiper Set 5/3/4. four eggs, slightly incubated. Nest on point of low land in delta bay, composed of a few grasses lining a little hollow in the ground. Parent birds seen several times near nest. Called Nū-vak-ē-ruk.

Set of Red Phalarope 5/4/4, taken by U.S., incubation begun; bird flushed from nest on low, boggy tundra ground, a few fine grasses and leaves lining a little hollow in the ground. Two eggs accidentally broken.

Pectoral Sandpiper

Red Phalarope

July 1. (Thursday).

Flushed a ~~Western~~ Semipalmated Sandpiper two or three times while walking along edge of little ridge, at head of tide flat, where most of driftwood was lodged. Searched in vain for nest, but little boy found and showed it to me later. Flushed ♀ from nest and shot her. L. $6\frac{1}{8}$. W. $3\frac{13}{16}$. T. $1\frac{13}{16}$. B. $\frac{3}{4}$+. Ts. $\frac{13}{16}$. Tc. $1\frac{13}{16}$; very slight tint of ochraceous on tips of secondaries. Four eggs in nest, incubation far advanced, and egg-shells very thin and brittle. Nest a slight hollow in dry mossy ground. Took photo of nest & $\frac{3}{4}$ eggs. 11 - $\frac{1}{50}$ - B5 2 p.m. (portrait lens.

Looked into hole in end of a large rotting driftwood log, and saw a ♀ Snowflake sitting on her nest about 3 ft. from end of log. I tried to break off part of end of log to get at the nest, and the ♀ bird slipped off and retreated a little way behind the nest, revealing four or five open-mouthed young birds. Large flock of Black Brants flew over in morning. Bright sunshine all day until about 8 p.m.

Semipalmated Sandpiper

Snow Bunting

Brant

July 1 (Thursday)
The large Eskimo village of Nialik is plainly visible about 2–3 miles across the land to eastward on another branch of river about 2 or 3 hrs. walk, but to reach by boat it was necessary to go down stream 3 or 4 miles, pass outside mud-flats (Grounded several times at about 18 inches, over a mile from land). Met much floating ice in bay. Started at 7 a/m. with light N.E. wind, changing to E. about 9 a/m. A fairly large island about 1½ mi. N. of Igalokpuk mouth of river. About 9 30 struck a deep channel between barely exposed mud flats 200–300 yds. apart and soon got between well-defined banks of Nialik branch of Colville. Banks gradually got higher until at village, on West bank about 3 mile from sea, the bank is from 12–15 ft. high. Many fish nets set in shallow water below village, which we reached about 11:30 p/m. The people had not been here very long, coming down from Ikkillikpa and up river to fish here, and wait for the Point Barrow (or Cape Smythe) Eskimo traders

Travel.

July 1 (Thursday)
who all expected here at the annual
rendezvous within two or three weeks.

Weather

July 2 (Friday). M.T. +45. +53° at 5^30 p.m.
Wind N.E. +48° at 9^00 p.m. Sunshine all day.
Took two pictures of village of Niralik from land
side. ½ From N.E. 11 - 1/100. B.S. 2^00 p.m.
½ From S.E. 11 - 1/50 - B.S 2^00 p.m.
Village consists of ten tents people,
with nine umiaks. The chief man,
wealthiest and most influential seems to
be Pannigûlak. We were in his tent several
times to eat fish. Everyone here is living
on fish "straight" at present. Some of the
people are at Oliktok hunting seal, but the
people here are out of grease, oil or blubber.
No tea among them, about the only thing
they seemed to feel the lack of (except oil).
Few deer had been killed this spring,
and everyone was more hungry for deer
and blubber
meat, than for flour, etc. People well supplied
with cloth garments (shirts, trousers etc.) and

July 2 (Friday)
plenty of guns and ammunition of all kinds
Assisted Stefansson in taking head measurements
of 35 people (the whole village with exception
of two old people and —— children).
Several families had had hunted Sheep
and Caribou last winter far to the southward;
said they crossed the divide to country
where rivers flow south, and they went so far
that they reached a level country where
no mountains could be seen. Akiatak saw
two miners who told them that miners
houses are now numerous everywhere
south of the divide. Akiatak killed twenty
Mt. Sheep, a few Caribou, and three "tents"
killed seven Moose; moose tracks everywhere.
One party ascended to the head of Killik
river (first large tributary of Colville on East
side); head of river said to be only a short
days journey from head of Shavanaktuk.
"tree" (spruce) on upper Killik, but no
trees (except willows) on Shavanaktuk. They
said they saw Peterdraught on Shavanaktuk

Travel.
Moose.
Mt. Sheep
Caribou

July 2 (Friday)

Pannigulak told us that there is a Musk-ox skull in a good state of preservation near west side of Kupuk branch of Colville delta, about five miles below mouth of Ikkillick River (Ikkillick-po). None of the men here (oldest over 60 yrs) have ever seen a living Musk-ox, although all had seen skulls and bones at various places on the level country; but none in the mountains. Pannigulak and Sons caught 25 white Foxes at Ikkillickpo the past winter. Akviatak had a fine Silver gray Fox caught two years ago (or more).

Fishing is rather slack just now, but most of the people have fish drying on racks. An old man (Ittoaiak) traded us some dried fish for Caribou meat. He has been sick for some time and was hungry for meat. His wife said he never cared for bread or flour. Some of the people told V.S. that they did not have to eat flour until spring. Most of them trade

Musk-ox.

White Fox.

Silver Fox.

Travel.

July 2 (Friday).
for flour with the Cape Smyth people, but prefer to eat meat and fish when they can get the latter.

July 3 (Saturday). M.T. +48. +58 at 11h p.m. Sunshine. Wind S.W. Temperature of air & water (in swift current 1 ft. below surface) 56° F. H.S. finished measuring heads today. Took several pictures.

(1). Ittakshak and his daughter Aiaki (front) 11-½0 8pm.
(2) do. (profile) 11-½0-B.S. 8 pm
(3). People of Nialett in group. 8-½0-B.S. 9h p.m.
(4) " " " (men) "
(5) " " " (women) "
(7) " " " (Children) "
(6) Panniyulak and family. 8-½-B.S. 10pm
(8). Tent of Attaktak, showing kayak, fish-drying rack, and one of the sled sleds commonly used in this community.

We did quite a little trading this evening. Most of the people wanted some tea, and we traded for 100 pounds W. 30-35,

July 3 (Saturday)

Trading

10 boxes 38-55, boxes 45-70, and a few pounds of shot, boat sail, paddle, rudder, copper pail (or tub), and a few fish. Nearly every man had plenty of surplus ammunition for both rifle and shotgun. We also traded a little tobacco and a few cans of malted milk. Mosquitoes very bad when wind is not blowing hard.

Mosq.

July 4 (Sunday) +47° at 12 m. Nine people in two umiaks arrived from Olitok shortly after midnight, among them Akpik's brother and Pannigulak's mother (the latter much younger looking than to be expected — P. himself is 45-50 yrs old). The old lady is becoming blind. Olitok people said the party had killed one caribou and put up seven pokes of seal oil. The remainder of the people had left Olitok at the same time going up river to Akillidgak, intending to come down by the Nialet branch. The present party had come outside the delta flats. They said the ice was still up against the shore at Olitok (Beechey Point) when they left

Travel

Seal Caribou

July 4 (Sunday).

Started up river from Nirakk at 3'15 a.m. with a light N.W. wind, which shifted to E. about 5 a.m. We sailed slowly up stream, and landed for lunch about 6:30 a.m. on W. bank. Saw a Little Brown Crane (Grus canadensis) stalking about on tundra near lake about ½ mi. away, and V.S. and I went after it. The bird walked slowly away, keeping well out of rifle range. Its mate did not appear, but the unwillingness of the bird to leave seemed to indicate a nest. Lake filled with ice except around shore.

A Red-throated Loon (#288 ♂ G. lumme) swam out from shore of a little pond with grass-grown edges. V.S. shot him in the water and after a little searching found the nest, two slightly incubated eggs. Nest on wet, boggy ground at brink of pond, a wet mass of dead grass and moss about one foot across, arranged in a circular form, with slight depression in center; partially concealed by scattered grass stems. Set 55/2

Wind remained E until 8:00 pm when

July 4 (Sunday)

a sudden squall blew up river from NW, giving us some trouble in gaining shelter at mouth of a little creek on West side, where we made camp. Course – Ca. 2 mi. S.E. from Nirlik, then 2 mi. S. from this point. Cloudy all day.

Dogs flushed a ♀ Eider (Spectacled?) from nest containing eight fresh eggs, on ground in little patch of scrub willows about 1 ft. high, about 10 yds from river bank. Bird came back later, but not within gun range. V.S. shot a ♂ Willow Ptarmigan – entire back, with middle ~~secondary~~ coverts. Quills, greater and lesser coverts white; belly white. Sides of breast and flanks partly brown.

Flushed a ♀ Lapland Longspur from nest near river bank, five eggs, one of them just hatching out. While chasing Eider Duck flushed a ♀ Pectoral Sandpiper which fluttered along ground, but I could not find nest. Flushed a Semipalmated Sandpiper several times on a little dry ridge

Traver

Spectacled Eider

W. Ptarmigan

Lapland Longspur

Pectoral Sandpiper

July 4 (Sunday).
about 100 yds from tent. She would run a little way, and stop, "peeping" faintly, and if followed would run further away. Watched her for a long time with glasses, but she would not return to the nest as long as I was in sight. (Alaskan Yellow Wagtail.) Have flushed a ♀ Warbler (the first Warbler seen in Alask) from a little dry ridge near river. The land on top of bank (about 10–12 ft. above river level is traversed by a network of little ridges from 6 in to 2 ft. high, sparsely covered with weeds and low ground willows. Land mostly dry near river, but occasional wet spots between ridges. The ♀ Warbler was soon joined by her mate and they flitted nervously about, occasionally alighting for a few seconds. One would sometimes approach quite near me while flying slowly against wind in a [illegible] saw course advancing very slowly. I could not approach within gunshot while birds were on ground.

Alaska Yellow Wagtail

July 4 (Sunday)

I concealed myself at about 150 yds. distance and watched birds with glasses. Finally I saw the ♀ disappear behind a little hummock. Going over the bird flew up when I was about 30 yds. away, and some searching revealed the nest with five young birds, very recently hatched. Nest placed under the side of a heavy tussock of turf, completely covered by turf, and well concealed by long grasses on top of tussocks and around it on sides. Nest neatly cupped and composed of grasses, lined with fine grass and feathers. Shot both parent birds

#289 ♂ Alaskan Yellow Warbler. Budytes flavus alascensis

#290 ♀ "

Coloration of both sexes much alike - the male having brighter yellow on throat, breast and belly, and wings and tail nearly black, the female fuscous. Back of both birds olive; white superciliary line. outer tail feathers white.

Alaska Yellow Warbler

July 5 (Monday). M.T. +32°. + 37 at 12³⁰ a.m. +46° at 7⁰⁰ a.m. Wind changed to S.W. before midnight and sun came out clear. Wind S. at 2:⁰⁰ a.m. N.E. at 8⁰⁰ a.m. Caught four small fish in net at mouth of creek — 1 Grayling (Thymallus signifer) 1 Sa'lik po'ok, 1 Whitefish "Tubut" and two Suckers (Mil□'i ak = the milker or sucked — Numatami name; Kan ti'ik, name at Pt Clarence); said by 'Billy' not to be found in sea, but occasionally in rivers at Teller. Preserved skin of one Sucker (Catostomus catostomus (Forster)) in milk can of alcohol, (have no jar suitable for a whole fish).

Mosquitoes hovered in a cloud around us while we loaded the boat. Took two Kodak exposures, with portrait lens at 2'8" showing Billy's back, with white netting nearly black with mosquitoes, he having stood still for two or three minutes to allow them to settle.

#9 Mosquitoes 11 — 1/100 — B.S. 8:⁰⁰ a.m.
#10 " 8 — 1/100 " "

Started up stream again at 9³⁰ a.m.

July 5 (Monday)
and traveled until 10:30 p.m. making camp
about one mile below the mouth of It-
killick river (Itkillickpa). The river pursues
a very winding course for 15-20 miles
the banks gradually becoming steeper
and higher (some cut banks 12-18 ft. high.
mostly fine clayey sand. A little
gravel appears on bars a few miles
below Itkillickpa. The winding channel
prevented our sailing more than half the
time, and we alternated by "tracking"
the boat, sometimes ourselves and some-
times by dogs, or paddling where
banks were unsuitable for tracking.
Saw one Duck Hawk (Falco peregrinus anatum)
sitting on top of high cut bank of river.
Landed on east bank at a spot where a
number of patches of willows 3-4 ft. high
grew among some sand dunes. Here I
saw three or four Tree Sparrows (Spizella
monticola) and many Longspurs.
Semipalmated Sandpipers were common

Travel: Wm. Tres Sparrows - Duck Hawk.

July 5 (Monday)

Longspurs along the river, more often on top of dirt banks than on sand beach, or flying about over the water singly, or in pairs or groups of three or four, their rapid flight often reminding me of Bank Swallows. Landed to cook lunch about 10 miles below Stillick[illegible] and I crossed the tundra to bank of a large lake, still nearly filled with ice. No Ducks seen here — Nothing but a few Old-squaws seen today. The Ducks seem to be all on the coast. Caught a young Marmot (C. parryi) in some small willows. He became very tame almost at once, climbed up my sleeve and into my pocket. Finally he escaped into the bottom of boat under cargo and got away in the night. He was about the size of a common Chipmunk.

Shot a ♂ Limosa lapponica baueri Naumann. #292 in a wet marshy flat near lake. The bird was alone and kept uttering a loud clear whistle resembling Curlew's note.

Semipalmated Sandpipers.
Glaucous Gull
Sterna Sp.
Pacific Godwit

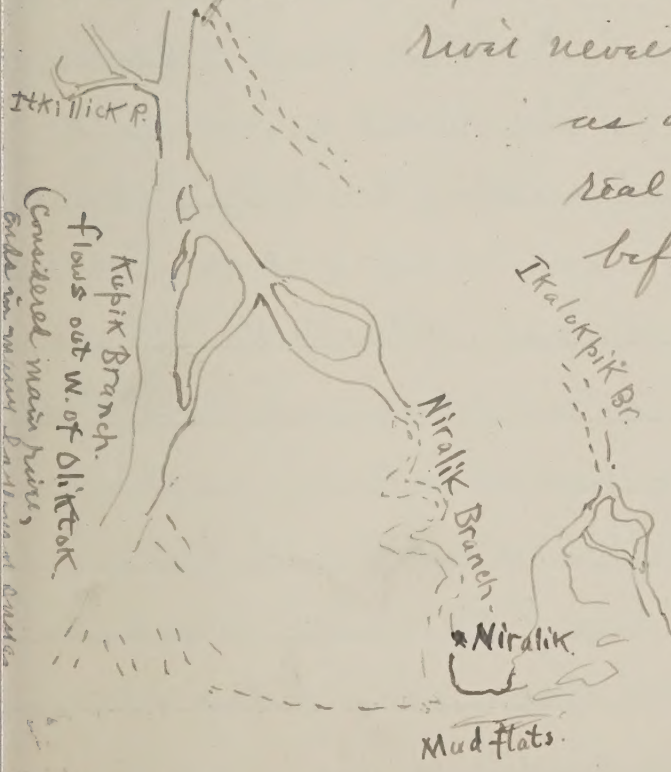
July 5 (Monday).

Shot one ♂ Willow Ptarmigan * 293. back entirely brown. A few Arctic Terns were seen hovering over lake, and a few Parasitic Jaegers. One pair of Alaskan Yellow-shafted Flickers (D. f. Alascensis) seen in bushes along river; very wild.

We had some difficulty in finding true channel at head of a long low sandy island. The current was sluggish here and at upper end of island it was hard to see in which direction the water was running, as the wind raised waves pretty high. After leaving island the channel was wider (ca 3 M-40 yds.?) and shallower. We grounded often 100 yds. from shore and seldom found channel more than 4–5 ft. deep, although sometimes there were holes 6–8 ft. deep. Pair of Semipalmated Plovers (C. semipalmata) seen on sand bar, very noisy.

A party of twelve Eskimos, three tents, with one umiak, were camped near the winter fishery on East bank of river just

July 5 (Monday).
above the fork of the two great branches of the Colville delta, about one mile north below mouth of Itkillick (Itkelik R.), the first large tributary of Colville on east side. This is considered the head of the delta, although the small, deep river which we entered west of Nialik, flows out of the main stream several miles above Itkillick pa. So, the whole of the Colville river never comes together as one stream, the real delta beginning before the large volume of water from the Itkillick river enters the main stream the mouths of all the



branches are flanked by exposed and unexposed mudflats and bars and the

July 5 (Monday)

Travel

channel proper is very difficult to find and keep, although there is said to be a good deep channel running well out to sea from both the Nialik and Kupik branches. Kirinirk, the head man of this party, said that they left Oliktok (Beechey Point) four days ago, and that at that time the ice was solidly against the beach there and that they came west by sleds a little west of our cache, about 5 miles west of Oliktok.

Polar Bear.

They killed one Polar Bear out on the ice near Oliktok last month and had some meat left. We had a meal of it in Kirinirk's tent, fairly good meat, although a trifle "high." Kirinirk had the only large tent in the party, 10 x 12 wall tent, and in it I saw eight guns, (six rifles and two shotguns), and two large bales of summer deerskins. They had come up here only to dig a cache for their winter's supply of seal blubber, and expect to go to Nirlik within a day or two. They had a very large umiak.

Travel.

nine Ugruk skins

Warm sunshine all day. Wind N.E.

July 6 (Tuesday). Temp. of air at 5 p.m. 62°. River water (1 ft below surface) + 57°. Heard Ptarmigan calling about 1:00 a.m. and Stefansson went after them, killing a ♂ and ♀. He flushed the female from a nest in tall Grass on border of a very dense, tangled thicket of willows, eight eggs, incubation far advanced. Set. 5/9/8. Skinned ♀ brn. #294 ♀ Lagopus lagopus. Nest composed of dead willow leaves, grassed and a few breast feathers from ♀ Ptarmigan. When shot the ♂ Ptarmigan fell about a foot from a small bird's nest which C.S. could not identify. I went to the spot soon after, and saw a pair of Tree Sparrows and a pair of Western Savanna Sparrows near the nest but could not tell to which birds the nest belonged. The nest contained five young birds - three or four days old, with partly fledged dusky feathers (almost black). Nest on dry ground in a dense clump of grasses on a little ridge near willow

July 6 (Tuesday)

thicket, well concealed, composed of coarse grasses and lined with fine, pale colored hair-like grasses. Returned to the nest in the afternoon and saw a pair of Tree Sparrows hopping nervously about and chirping. One of the birds had an insect in its mouth, and, watching closely, I saw it descend to the nest. Approaching, I flushed the bird at about 6 ft. distance.

Tree Sparrow.

Travel.

Paddled the umiak up to mouth of the Killick river to the "Miner's house", built 4–5 yrs. ago by Mr. Grave et al – the most northern Miner's house in Alaska. Stefansson had cached some stuff in the house last winter, and found it in good condition. Panniyilat told us that the river had flowed into the house last spring, but he had placed our goods high and dry. Some water and ice still in floor of house. Ground sandy and rolling here, many scrub willows; high hills or peaks to southward. Colville over ½ mile wide from Killick pt to fork of Nualik R. and very deep

July 6 (Tuesday) Acanthis linaria

Saw a flock of six or seven Redpolls in weeds near house. They alighted on roof and I fired at the bunch, killing one ♀ Redpoll and a stray ♀ Lapland Longspur among them. Several Wu Savanna Sparrows were hopping about on the ground and in the willows, and I finally shot one after much difficulty in approaching. Dogs got away with three specimens before embarking

Flushed a Semipalmated Sandpiper from a dry piece of ground between two ponds. Looking closely at the spot, I found four downy young birds, just hatched, lying flat on ground, perfectly motionless, with heads stretched out on ground. When I picked one up and set him down again, he ran a little way and crouched again, being almost invisible among the lichens and half-dead grass. Took all four for specimens Nos. 296-7-8-9. Semipalmated Sandpipers juv. Sex indeterminate. The old bird attempted to draw my attention by

July 6 (Tuesday)

"peeping" and fluttering along the ground. A pair of Alaskan Yellow Wagtails ~~Warbler~~ were evidently resting on the point at junction of the two rivers. They kept flying about all the time I was there, often going 100 ft. up, and then alighting for a moment, but keeping well out of gun range. Finally killed ♀ #295. Alaska Yellow Wagtail ~~Warbler~~. Saw two more pairs of the same species in the dense willow scrub along the top of high cut bank at our camp. The willows here form a dense tangle, very difficult to walk through. The trunks grow from one to two inches thick, branches very gnarled and spreading, interlacing with their neighbors, the tops never growing more than two or three feet above the ground. These patches are said to be almost impossible to traverse with or without snow shoes in winter, although they form great feeding grounds for Ptarmigan. Took one picture of Miner's house at

Ikellictpa #1. 11-1/10 B.S. 4 p.m. and one of Eskimo camp from river. #2. 8-1/10-B.S. 5 pm A few Red Phalaropes seen at Ikellictpa and Ikorial near camp. Shot two ♀ Old-squaws from flock of three in a little pond near camp. Saw one Northern Phalarope and a pair of Parasitic Jaegers. Set fish-net last night but caught nothing. About half a mile below fork of river is a great fishing place in fall and winter, and most of the Colville people spend a great part of their time there. Those who fish assiduously catch enough to live on, while those who follow the caribou often starve.

Mosquitoes very numerous here, and it is almost impossible to walk through the willow thickets except facing the wind. When the wind is not blowing, the mosquitoes are almost unendurable.

July 7 (Wednesday). M.T. 48° + 62° at 8 am. 81° (in sun) at 9 am. 89 at 10 am. 92-1/2 at 11 am. 91° at 12 M. No wind before 11.30 am.

Willow Ptarmigan Tree Sparrow

Shot 8 Tree Sparrow. # 301.

Weather

July 7 (Wednesday). Clear, bright sunshine; hottest day of summer. N.E. wind after 1 o'p.m., and a little cooler. Started down river at 8 o'a.m., following the main river (called Kūpik), which runs N.E. toward Oliktok. Several long, sandy islands in channel. Made an sounding in midstream, 3½ fathoms, and one 2 or 3 mi. further down 2 fathoms. Landed on a large island to look for 4 dogs, and saw fresh (last month?) Caribou tracks. Shot at Snowy Owl on sandbar, but missed. Saw one ♀ Willow Ptarmigan, flushed by dogs on mainland. Dogs also flushed a ♀ Spectacled Eider from brush, and from the wrangling which ensued, I think they found a nest with eggs. Shot five ♀ Spectacled Eiders while drifting down stream, and saw a few gulls. Saw one pair of Alaska Yellow Waylands on a big bluff where we landed to take sights, about 5 mile from coast (first sight of ice mirage).

Weather

Snowy Owl

Spectacled Eiders

Alaska Yellow Waylands

July 7 (Wednesday).
Another pair were seen three or four miles further up stream. These warblers were nowhere numerous, but probably at least one or two pairs were resting every half mile or so along the river bank, near the willows. A short distance from the river, where the tundra is bare, they have not been seen. Had to land and make camp at 5.00 p.m. on East bank, on account of rising N.E. wind, which meeting the tidal current, raised a choppy swell, with white caps, dangerous for our heavily loaded boat. Longspurs seen everywhere along the river. Mosquitoes very bad, and biting viciously. There seem to be at least two species, one large species with a red head, and a smaller species. As we have no mosquito nets here, we have to keep our anteja hoods up all the time, in spite of the hot weather. Old squaws numerous in ponds near camp. Billy killed 3 ♀ willow Ptarmigan after

July 7 (Wednesday)
firing about twenty shots with .22 rifle

July 8 (Thursday) M.T. +38° Sunshine. Light S. wind at 4^oo a.m. but before we were ready to sail it changed to N.E. at 6^oo a.m. +75° at 2^oo p.m. Cloudy after 8^oo p.m. V.S. shot two Old-squaws in water at edge of a large ice-covered lake. He also saw a pair of Black-bellied Plovers which appeared to be resting and marked the spot, also a Red Phalarope's nest with four eggs. I went out to look for the Plover's nest, but the Plover flew up crying Tu lik before I was within 20 yds. of the nest. I searched in vain for the nest although the Plover kept running about and calling about 50 yds. away. V.S. and Billy soon came along and helped me hunt for a little while. They were going to look for Deer but were soon stopped by another river channel and came back. A small bunch of Willow Ptarmigan were flushed near together on

Old-squaws
Ptarmigan
Black-bellied Plover.

July 8 (Thursday)
Billy killed two ♂'s and one ♀. I also shot a ♀ Old squaw. When V.S. came back again he watched the Plovers haunt through the glasses while I walked ahead. The Plover soon flew up and I marked the spot, but diligent search by both of us failed to disclose the nest. I came back again half an hour later, saw the Plover and after a little running about, he disappeared behind the same little ridge as before. I walked around to a point about 100 yds. to the other side and lay down perfectly motionless. By this time the Plover was becoming used to my maneuvers, and within five minutes ran directly to the nest and sat down. I watched him through the Glasses for some time, but when I stood up and walked a few paces forward he was up and away again. This time I found the eggs at once, in plain view, on ground that we had looked over several times. Nest on a low dry ridge between

July 8 (Thursday)

Two small ponds; ridge about 15 yds. across and 3 or 4 ft. above water level. Nest composed of simply a few shreds and stems of a white moss or lichen which is found abundantly on dry ground everywhere here; these fibres lining a little hollow about 4 in. across and 1 in. deep, in a green, moss and lichen covered hummock. Four eggs, about one-fourth incubated. Set 56/4

Returned to camp for my camera, and lying down about 20 ft from the nest, the bird came running straight towards me until within 20 yds. when I shot him.

#302 ♂ Charadrius squatarola.

The ♀ bird did not appear while I was there although B.S. saw a pair of the birds the first time he passed by.

Phot. #3. B-b. Plover. N/4. 16 - 1/5 Hazy Sun. 7.30 p.m.

#4 " " 16 - 1/50 " "

#5 #6. Red Phalarope N/4 11 - 1/25 " "

Photographed the Red Phalarope's nest found by B.S. and collected nest and eggs. Set 5/4 Inc. began

Red Phalarope

Black-bellied Plover

The Plover occasionally uttered a single short whistled note, but the usual cry was TOO-lik the first syllable prolonged, the last short.

July 8 (Thursday) Nest on fairly dry, mossy ridge between ponds, about 50 yds. from Plover's nest; about 3 in. across, 1 in. deep.; composed of a mass of fine dry grass and moss lining a little hollow in the ground in the midst of a clump of grass; well concealed. Saw ♂ bird on nest on two occasions.

Found another nest of Red Phalarope about 50 yds. from this one, on other side of Plover's nest, on low, boggy tundra near pond; composed of a few fine grasses and a few feathers lining a little hollow in the ground; about 3 in. across, 1 in. deep. Four eggs, slightly incubated. Sk 57/4 Saw ♂ bird on nest. The ♂ Phalarope seems to perform all the duties of incubation. I have never flushed a ♀ Phalarope from eggs, although the ♀ often appears on the scene after the ♂ leaves the nest, flying about with the male, uttering a low chowny note. Shot a young Longspur, well-fledged able to fly a short distance, tail short.

* 303. C. lapponicus Sex (?) Juv.

"Red Phalarope."

Lapp.

Parasitic Jaeger

July 8 (Thursday)
Saw a pair of Parasitic Jaegers around a little group of connected ponds. They often alighted and flew screaming over my head, but I saw no signs of a nest. Six or eight Arctic Terns hovered continually over a small lake, often alighting on one or two little islands in the middle. Gulls occasionally flew over, one pair Loons seen, and several Pectoral and Semipalmated Sandpipers.

Arctic Tern

Weather

July 9 (Friday). M.T. +43. 70° at 9.30 a.m. Wind E. +57 at 9 p.m. Hot, sunshiny day. Three Spectacled Eiders shot in river near camp. A few Parasitic Jaegers, Gulls, Arctic Terns and Lapland Longspurs seen. Strong N.E. wind and whitecaps on river all day. Wind died down after 8 p.m. and we sailed at 11.30 p.m. Spent most of day cleaning guns and repairing gear.

Spectacled Eider

Travel

Weather

July 10. (Saturday) M.T. +34 (?). +51 at 1 p.m. Light N.E. wind in morning

July 10 (Saturday).
Traveled until 11.00 a.m. Ice in sight outside of river mouth. River splits up into numerous small channels with small islands between, so that it is difficult to choose a course to follow. Whichever one we enter we soon wish we had tried another one. Landed about 5.00 a.m. & Cook lunched and crossed tundra to a hill about ½ mile away. Very little to be seen. Flushed a Red Phalarope from nest in low, boggy ground. Four eggs, about one-half incubated. Set. 60/4. Saw several Parasitic Jaegers, a few Old Squaws, many Lapland Longspurs, 8–10 Eiders.
Took picture of group cooking in midst of mosquito smudge. K7. 6.8. – 1/75. B.S. 5.30 a.m.
A little further down, we entered a channel about 200 yds. wide, but which proved to be nowhere more than 2 to 3 ft. deep. We finally got the boat within 30 yds. of shore, portaged half a load ashore through water and soft mud, and made camp

July 10 (Saturday)

on an island 1/4 of a mile long about 6 ft. above river level. Island dry and sandy, with considerable drift willow along banks. A few Old squaw remained for a long time in river near camp, and I afterward found some broken egg-shells about 200 yds further down the bank. A few Eiders, Old squaw, Gulls, Black-throated Loons, and one Yellow billed Loon flew over. A large colony of Terns were hovering over a little island about 1/4 mile east of us, but we could not get across. Billy started exploring and soon found a nest of American White fronted Geese (Anser albifrons gambeli) about 300 yds. from camp, containing four young birds, apparently just hatched, as they could barely stand up and waddle a little way. Nest on a little mound of dry earth (Marmot burrow) a foot or two higher than the surrounding land and about 40 yds from the river. Both parent birds were stalking around

Travel

Terns.

White-fronted Geese.

July 10 (Saturday).

Keeping about 200 yds away. The nest contained a mass of fresh egg shells, with the lining membrane not yet dry. Nest composed of a mass of grey down, mixed with bits of grass stems, lining a little hollow in the ground. I went back to camp for rifle and tried to stalk the Geese, but did not get very near although they came within 100 yds of V.S. and Billy, who were lying near the nest with shotguns. My approach scared up the Geese, and they flew over Billy, who fired and missed, and the Geese flew away. I took two pictures of the young Geese, in and near the nest.

♂ Juv. Wt. Geese. 11/4. 11 - 1/100 - B.S 2 c/p m. Pt. Barrow
♀ " " 11/4. 11 - 1/100 " " " " "

The young Geese were colored olive greenish on back and crown, under parts and neck bright greenish yellow; feet dull brown; iris hazel; bill dusky. They refused to pick up food, although they would eat mosquitoes offered to them.

July 10 (Saturday)

Flushed a Semipalmated Sandpiper near Jose's nest, but did not stop to look for nest. V.S. and Billy found it later. Four eggs, in almost bare dry ground about 25 yds from river. As the eggs appeared to be nearly ready to hatch I left them.

A pair of Turnstones were very noisy while I was on one side of the island, but I could find neither eggs nor young birds. The Turnstones four of them later, attacked and drove away a Parasitic Jaeger which flew over the island. (noted them do this June 24 before)

Went to sleep at 3 pm. having been up 31 hrs. Slept 14 hrs. A single Dandelion blossom on top of knoll.

Travel. Ruddy Turnstone. Semipalmated Sandpiper. Dandelion.

July 11 (Sunday). +40 at 6 30 a.m. +39 at 7 30 p.m. +52 at 7 p.m. Strong N.W. wind. Sun visible through clouds in forenoon. Cloudy afternoon. Young Geese much stronger today, running about in tent, catching flies and mosquitoes. Refused to pick up food from ground, but Ead Triscuit crumbs from each others backs.

Weather. White-fronted Geese.

July 11 (Sunday)
with great avidity.

Started with boat at 9 30 a.m., intending to
Cross to another higher island on West side
about a mile further out, but could not get
boat within 200 yds of shore. Waded ashore
and saw many Marmot holes and a few
Longspurs. Island proper about 200 yds
wide, with 500-600 yds. mudflat on west side
Several large islands seen to westward and
many mudflats. It appears that we
have struck a channel further East than
the best channel [the proper route from
Olitok is to follow the coast 6 or 7 miles
S-west, then strike out across the bay
to westward, outside the mudflats
heading for the high island which has
a deep channel (on East side at least), which
leads directly into the big river]. We tried
to go ahead, but water seemed to get
more shoal as we proceeded. We explored
on all sides wading half knee-deep
for hundreds of yards in all directions.

July 11 (Sunday).

We finally found a slightly deeper, narrow channel running between two barely exposed mud-flats near an island on east side of river. ~~light rain falling~~ Here we landed at 12 M. had lunch, unloaded and cached half our cargo, and started ahead with half a load after wading ahead for about a quarter of a mile. ~~light rain falling~~ 3 P.M. By dragging boat across a wide bar, at north end of island we got into water of another branch of the river which comes down east of the one we were on. We soon found a 6 ~~foot~~ deep channel ca 25 ft wide with fairly strong current. Followed channel Northeastward to mainland where we found 3 or 4 feet of water very near shore. Landed in a little bay, unloaded boat and made camp. Stefansson went inland to look for Caribou, while the rest of us went back for the rest of the load. Saw very few birds today — a few Old-squaws, two or

Travel.

three Eiders, one ♂ Snowflake, and four Ruddy Turnstones. Four Whitefish and two Sculpins in our net this morning. Billy shot two Spectacled Eiders.

Oliktok point [Leffingwell], Alaska

July 12 (Monday) M.T. +37° +39° at 7³⁰ a.m. Cloudy Light N.E. wind. Stefansson returned to camp at 5¹⁰ a.m. having seen four Caribou a few miles to the eastward, followed them several hours and killed all four shortly after midnight. He said the night was cold enough to help down the mosquitoes and clear enough to see well. The carcasses were lying about ¾ of a mile from a little creek which flows into the bay about 3 mi. east of our camp. We started out at 8³⁰ a.m. with empty umiak, tracking along coast with dogs. Paddled into shallow bay at mouth of creek, and tracked up stream by dog and man power for three or four miles. Stream averages 50 yds. wide for first two

Ruddy Turnstone

Great Thetis mound, Leffingwell's Paper 104. pp. 1 V.

July 12 (Monday)

miles and from 3 – 8 ft. deep; above this it narrows rapidly and about four miles from the coast the water averages less than 10 ft. across. In a few places the stream ran over gravel bars with less than four inches of water. Skinned and cut up deer, and packed it across about ¾ mi. of fairly dry rolling hills & the river valley, (six pack-dogs and four people). Fed the dogs all the intestines, livers, lungs, etc., and some meat, nearly as much as they wanted.

Two of the Caribou were yearlings, 5 and 6, with horns less than 1 ft. long, two branches on each. The other two were bucks, two years old or over. A large quantity of the winter coat had been shed, giving the animals a patchy appearance. The remainder of the hair was so loose that it dropped off in great handfuls wherever roughly handled. Hair on head (except forehead) mostly

Moose

Caribou

July 12 (Monday)

shed, as well as on neck. The new hair is very short and soft, black on head, back and sides; neck and shoulders grayish. Hair on flanks and belly almost absent, very short. Skinned the largest ♂ for a specimen. The others were plucked (loose old hair removed) before skinning. The new hair is nearly long enough for clothing. Pannigablok says that the skins with soft, short, velvety, black hair, plucked before the old hair is shed are specially valued by the Point Barrow people for trimming garments (pieces of black skin are alternated with white reindeer skin).

Caribou

Measurements of ♂ Caribou #309.

Length (nose & tip tail) 73 in. Tail, 7. Height at shoulders 42. Depth chest 18½. Hip & shoulder 39. Girth neck (behind ears) 20. Girth neck (front of shoulder) 26. Girth chest 47. Girth belly 5-6. Girth loins 47. Girth hind leg 20. Girth fore leg 13.

July 12 (Monday)

All the Caribou had velvet-covered horns very soft and vascular. Billy cut off the tips of one pair of horns, stewed them and ate the soft portion around the horn core. I tried it, but found the horn tasteless although not unpalatable.

Caribou

Saw many Snowflakes (P. nivalis) in driftwood which is heaped in windrows at entrance to bay and for half a mile up the creek. A young downy Semipalmated Sandpiper was caught on wet bank.

Semipalmated Sandpiper

Dogs chased a Red-backed Sandpiper (Tringa alpina pacifica) which flitted along the bank for some distance. She probably has young, and succeeded admirably in drawing the dogs away from them. A few Red Phalaropes, Northern Phalaropes, Pomarine Jaegers, Longspurs, two Black-bellied Plovers seen and a flock of large Gulls (L. glaucus?).

Red-backed Sandpiper

Water lowered several inches from noon to midnight, exposing several mud flats a little way off shore, and compelling

Travel

Travel

us to do a bit of Exploratory wading and boat dragging before reaching Camp with our load.

Weather

July 13 (Tuesday) M.T. +35½. +36½ at 1 am +54° at 12 m. +54° at 10 pm. N.E. wind all day too high for travel. Billy told me that he had seen a Red throated Loon "kax'a rank" sitting on her nest on a little island in a pond near camp, and about 10 yds from Coast. He could not reach the nest but thought I could with long boots. We went over, but saw no bird on the island which was about 25 yds from shore. I succeeded in getting to the island, water and mud on bottom about 2½ feet deep. Island a mass of soft peat, about 20 ft x 18 ft. and about 8 inches above water level. Nest a damp mass of wood mosses and grass, about 1 ft. across and hollowed out about 2 inches deep in center.

Yesterday

Red throated Loon

July 13 (Tuesday)

Red-throated loon

Placed about six inches from edge of water
While we were near the nest the ♂ bird
circled about us once or twice, and
flying over the pond, was dropped with
a broken wing. It took several more shots
to finish him, as he could swim and
dive very well. #310. ♂ Summer ♂.
Eggs two, about one half incubated. Set 61/2
saw Red Phalarope, Eider, Old squaw,
Young Longspurs (well-fledged). Light
rain all night.

Longspurs

Point Milne [Toffingwall] Alaska

Weather

July 14 (Wednesday) M. T. +46.0 +48° at 6 00
a.m. West wind. Water rising. Cloudy fore-
noon. Left camp at 11.30 a.m. Reached
our caches 5 mi. W. of Oliktok [Milne Pt.] at 2 30 p.m. [Ca. 149 23' W.]
Found caches O.K. Ikaivuk had moved
further inland near Kunaluak's cache.

Travel

My five Caribou skins and skulls were
in good condition and nothing appeared
to be missing. The natives who have been
sealing here seem to have been using John

July 14 (Wednesday).

Grubin's kayak, which he lent me, and worn some paint off the bottom and nearly through the canvas in one place. It leaks a little at present. A little creek flows into ocean near cache, and then a conspicuous "pingok" about half a mile inland from which Stefansson's party shot several caribou last fall. Ice pack about half a mile off shore at this point and gradually closing in towards Oliktok (Beechey Point). [Ed. Milne, Stefansson 27]

Beechey Point is the name of the long, narrow sand-spit which extends out into the sea about half a mile from the mainland (the high cut banks) which also sweep out in a long curve towards the south on each side of the point. Fairly deep water, 5 or 6 ft. with hard sandy bottom, close to shore for ½ mile on each side of point. Point marked by several upright posts with boats upturned, about 100 yds. back from point. Ice pack close to point at Oliktok, about 20 yds. leaving a narrow passage, just deep enough for umiak across end of sand-spit. About 50 yds. from Point on East side there was only an opening about ten feet wide

July 14 (Wednesday).

between edge of ice and shore, and we had barely six inches of spare space in getting through. Strong current to eastward across bar at Point; water brackish, quite salty a little way on east side of Point. Half a mile west of Beechey [Milne] Point the water was perfectly fresh. Noticed many fragments of stalk branches of Hydroids (Plumularians?) strewn on beach and floating in tide wash along shore, in perfectly fresh water, all along the beach, as far as the mouth of large creek about 10 miles S.W. of Beechey [Milne] Point. Plenty of large driftwood all along sandspit at Point and considerable wood all cut banks at intervals for a long way on either side. Three graves (recent) about half a mile to S.E. of Point, one (double) marked by cross at each end; wooden coffins on top of ground (examined last spring). Saw several large flocks (50-75 birds in one flock) of ♂ Old squaws, and two or three small flocks of Eiders (all females) in water and on edge of ice-floe. No ♂ Eider ducks have been seen since June. Pennigeblok says

Travel. Hydroids. Travel. Old squaws. P. Eiders.

July 14 (Wednesday).
that at this season, the male Eiders flock in
great numbers along the coast at Point Barrow,
and every strong east wind brings more
of them along. Sailed as far as Beechey Point
from cache with NE. wind quartering, then
had to paddle on east side of Point, crossing
a little bay to mouth of a little creek called
Ungarávik, about 3 mi. from Oliktok. Passed
two small capes (Turnik); high black earth
cut banks, with fairly deep water near shore
although boat could seldom be brought
close to bank on account of large sunken
blocks of peat on bottom. Ground ice appears
very often, about 1 ft. below surface of bank,
at a great many points all along coast,
from 1st Camp outside of Colville, as far as
this creek. Creek flows into a long bay or
fjord about ¼ mile wide and ¾ mile long.
High sandy bank (ca. 20 ft. high on west side
of mouth. Remains of old cache (or sunken ice-
house), about 6 ft square and walled up
with timbers. Perhaps left by Capt. McKenna's

July 14 (Wednesday)

Whaling ship which is said to have wintered near here several years ago. Stefánsson had started across country from a point about 3 miles west of Okiktok, looking for Caribou, intending to meet us on this side. We did not cross bay at mouth of creek, think S. could not cross creek, and made Camp at 10 30 pm. in a little cove about 200 yds. west of creek mouth, where beach was low and there was plenty of driftwood. Sunshine until midnight, when a fog blew in from the ice pack. Stefánsson came in shortly after midnight, having crossed the creek far up country, where it was small, and again in shallow water at its mouth. He said the country inland from here is covered by a dense mass and network of lakes, ponds, etc. connected by rivers or narrow deep Channels. He saw no Caribou, but many Geese (about 200 in all), mostly American White-fronted. They would not fly but swam out into the lakes when he

Travel

W. fronted Geese

July 14 (Wednesday)
approached. Several Jelse were seen with broods of small young ones. Made a large rack by setting up two tripods of long poles, with cross bar between, and hung up several Caribou skins, and skulls, to dry them a little. It is extremely difficult to keep anything like this out of reach of our dogs, who have a diabolical cunning in all the arts of stealing, and seem able to reach anything, even in an anchored boat, unless it is deeply buried or hoisted above their heads. As McCrey says, it is a good thing that dogs can't fly.

Camp Gwydyr Bay, Arctic Coast.
July 15 (Thursday) M.T. +42. +47 at 2h p.m.
Bright sunshine most of day. Foggy towards evening. Strong N.E. wind all day, which opened a lead at least half a mile wide along shore as far as we could see. Wind too strong to sail. Went with Stefansson about half a mile inland along creek about half a mile from coast, to a spot where he had seen a pair of American Golden Plovers yesterday, and

Golden Plover

July 15 (Thursday).

thought there might be a nest. We saw the Plover fly up, for a short distance when we were about 100 yds. away, and run off very rapidly, occasionally uttering a note resembling the "Tu-lik" of the Black-bellied Plover, but perhaps a trifle less loud. The Eskimos have the single name, "Tulik," for both species. The bird allowed us to come within 50 yds. and sometimes closer (near enough to see the yellow spots on back), when we were near a certain point, but we could not find the nest. I lay down about 200 yds. away and watched the bird through glasses. She ran about hither and thither, feeding, and suddenly disappeared behind a little hummock. I took note of exact spot, and called to Stefansson who focused glasses on spot while I walked towards the spot. The bird soon flew up and I advanced, marking the apparent spot with a mound of turf. We carefully scrutinized every square yard within 50 ft. of the spot, but

Golden Plover

July 15 (Thursday).

found nothing, although the bird often sidled up within 10 yds. of us, and then fluttered away. Crouching on ground with feathers ruffled out. Sometimes she would approach with wings spread out and slightly drooping uttering a plaintive "peeut." Sometimes she would wail out a mournful "Tu-lik" or a sharp "cheep! cheep!" note. I went back about 100 yds. and lay down again. Within two minutes the bird, after looking around in all directions, ran directly to the nest, and sat down, and I could see her head and neck very plainly. This time Stefansson lined up the bird with the former landmark, while I advanced from another angle — it being very difficult to estimate distances looking across a series of little hummocks. The bird flew up almost immediately as we advanced, and we walked directly to the nest, which was in plain sight, unconcealed, about 15 ft. from the first mark on ground which we had carefully

July 15 (Thursday)

Golden Plover

Searched over before. The nest was near the top of a dry moss and-lichen-covered hillside sparsely grown with short grass overlooking a little ravine, about half a mile from the coast; a little hollow about 4 inches across and one inch deep in a bed of dry, gray moss; composed of a very few bits of grass, leaves and white lichens. Three eggs, incubation advanced. Set 6/3. The bird approached us and before, this time within 15 ft., too close & short, so I chased the bird, which ran away rapidly, and I shot it, finding it to be the ♂ parent. The ♀ Plover did not appear on the scene today. *371 ♂ Charadrius dominicus. This was the first bird of this species which I have seen in Alaska. The Black-bellied Plovers have been seen often, but not in large numbers; single pairs only seen, and never nearer than a mile or two from another pair. Both species are very wary, and leave nest before a man gets within 200 yds. the first intimation of

July 15 (thursday)

the birds present being usually a plaintive Tu-lek, and then a sight of the bird running rapidly away. The eggs of the Golden Plover were only a trifle smaller than the Black-bellied Plover, although the bird is much smaller, and have no greenish tinge. Ground color light grayish brown or clay color, thickly spotted with burnt umber and black. The color harmonizes so well with the variegated colors of the earth — gray moss, white lichens, brown moss, green moss, green grass, and dead grass — that they were very difficult to see.

Flushed a ♂ Red Phalarope from boggy tundra. He fluttered along the ground with ruffled feathers, and then circled around our heads, uttering plaintive notes. We could not find the nest. U.S. said that he found a Red Phalarope nest yesterday containing three eggs and one young bird. Caught a young Lapland Longspur which was able to fly only a yard

July 15 (Thursday)

Lapland Longspur

or two at a time, but could run very fast and dodge quickly, and I had some difficulty catching it in the grass.

*312. C. lapponicus ♂(?) jun. Tailfeathers about 1/3 grown, shorter than specimen shot July 8th.

Travel.

Our camp is located near the bottom of the so-called Gwydyr Bay, marked on Charts as a deep, long bay between Beechey Point and a long point about — miles east of it. The bay is really a very shallow indentation of the coast, broken by several points projecting nearly (within a mile) of line joining extremities of bay. Water shallow (not more than 4 or 5 feet within ½ mile of shore). Took photo of camp, drying rack, umiak, etc. 16-$\frac{1}{50}$-B.S. 4^00 p.m.

Weather

July 16 (Friday) M.T. +40° +42° at 2^00 pm. light S.W. wind for a little while at 6^00 a.m. N.E. wind from 7:00 a.m. to 9^00 p.m. Calm from 9^00 pm. to 11:30 p.m. Sudden west wind sprang up at 11^30 pm. and it blew steadily

Weather

July 16 (Friday)
colder, +37° at midnight. Slightly cloudy most of day, with some drifting fog from the ice pack. Bright sunshine from 6^00 p.m. until Midnight. Wind lowered a little in evening and we sailed (& paddled, rather) at 7:15 p.m. Had a long delay while dogs swam (and waded) across bay. Eight dogs came bravely across, but P's big dog, "Tuk-li-ik", lagged behind. A Yellow-billed Loon flew over landward at close range. Several ~~Black-throated Loons~~ Pacific (Ma'lōrē) seen swimming in bay, and flying over. The ~~Black-throated~~ Pacific Loons fly up quickly and readily from the water without flapping along the surface like G. imber. Many Eiders and 8 old squaws seen and several Jaegers. V.S. shot a large Gull (L. ~~glaucescens~~ hyperboreus).

#318. ♀ Larus hyperboreus L. 24 1/4 W. 19 1/4. + 8 1/2.
Iris straw-yellow; feet creamy pink

Yellow-billed Loon
Pacific Loon
Glaucous Gull
Old squaws

Weather

July 17 (Saturday) M. T. +37° +37° at 3^30 a.m. Light N.W. wind from 2^00 a.m. until 5^00 a.m. Made camp at 4:30 a.m. at mouth of a little creek.

Travel

July 17 (Saturday)

flowing into a long, narrow bay. Water fresh when we landed, but tide soon setting in. A long point about 1 mile N. of us is about 3-4 miles S.E. from eastern end of Pingok, a long narrow island about 7 mi. long, covered with little hills. [Flaxman Island (Jeffrey, 1905).] There appears to be a lead of open water leading out to Pingok, but the ice pack appears to extend close to land from eastern end of Pingok. Collected about a dozen species of small flowering plants growing in sandy soil here — all colors — white, blue, violet, lavender, pink, rose, yellow. Sailed at 8 pm p.m. — very light N.E. wind. We soon blocked by floating cakes of ice near land, but managed to work through, shoving the small cakes aside and going around the larger ones. Crossed a deep bay about half a mile across mouth, and wider inside, at least a mile and a half deep, with a river flowing into it from the south. Dogs had much trouble swimming across, but managed it all right, resting occa-

> Travel

July 17 (Saturday)
sionally on floating ice cakes which were
numerous at mouth of bay. Rounded a sharp
point, terminated by a sand spit [Beechey Point, Jeffrey Island?]
and found
a strong current setting in from the east-
ward, and ice-floe jammed up close to
shore about 300 yds. east, with much floating
ice and the pack grinding and crushing.
Fog also coming up, we hastily paddled
back around to West side of the point, and
made camp at 10½ p.m. Saw a Snowy Owl
sitting on a little mound about 100 yds. from
coast. Crawled up behind bank, and cut off
a few feathers with rifle bullet, but the bird
flew away apparently unharmed. A few
Snowflakes and Lapland Longspurs seen here.

July 18 (Sunday). Fog cleared away about 3 a.m.
and sun shone for a while during forenoon.
Wind N.E. during early morning and forenoon.
Shifted to S. about 10 a.m. and to N.W. about 3 p.m.
+42° at noon. Mosquitoes absent in early morning
but came out in great abundance during warm

Flowers.

July 18 (Sunday)
part of day. Saw several Dandelion blossoms on top of bank near coast. Spent day preparing specimens and watching boat, while Stefansson and Billy hunted Caribou inland. This is said to be the best deer country along the north coast of Alaska, and Stefansson has seen deer here every time he has passed here. Set fish net on west side of point where water was free from ice and caught two Whitefish and one ——. About an hour later a drifting ice cake caught in end of net and tore it badly. One fish in net when I took it up, but it escaped. Hard rain from 3 to 4 p.m. with strong N.W. wind, which brought much ice back from the westward. Ice has been drifting westward all day — large cakes being shoved up slowly at end of sandspit, ploughing up sand and mud ahead of them. When wind changed to N.W. we moved umiak around to east side of point. Snow flying from 10 to 11 p.m.

Travel

July 18 (Sunday)

Weather

whitening the ground. + 28° at 11 p.m.
Young ice forming in sheltered coves
along shore, in lee of ice floes, and quite
a bit of slush, in small lumps floating in
open water, in streaks. Moved camp about
half a mile eastward to edge of the ice-
pack, a broad lead having opened up
on east side of sandspit.

Travel

Old-squaw

During the day many flocks of Old-squaw
were flying west across the end of sandspit,
and a few eiders. A few Snowflakes and
Longspurs seen. Stefansson and Billy
returned about 3 p.m. They had struck a
herd of 40–50 Caribou, - all ages and
sizes, several fawns and one large buck
with large horns. The Caribou kept
moving S.E. all the time and they could
not get any near to them, although they
fired and missed. Billy, who was nearest,
said that many of the deer had good
black coats now. The mosquitoes seemed
to bother them badly and they kept

Caribou

July 18 (Sunday)

Caribou

moving towards the mtns. On the way home they saw two more female Caribou with two fawns. V.S. saw a flock of Northern Phalaropes, over a hundred

N.P.

I saw about a dozen Pectoral Sandpipers in a flock a few days ago, and a small flock

Pect. Sandp.

of Semipalmated Sandpipers. No Geese seen today.

West of Kuparuk river, Alaska

Weather

July 19 (Monday) M.T. +26½. +29° at 2 a.m. Wind N.W. Cloudy until 3 a.m. +35 at 8 a.m. Very fine snow blowing in and at 8 a.m. +37 at 4:30 p.m. Dull sunshine during forenoon, bright afternoon. Mosquitoes absent until noon, when a few appeared on the scene again. Wind lighter in afternoon. A few Semipalmated Sandpipers seen on beach, and a few Longspurs. Stefansson hunted along coast about 12 miles, as far as the Kuparuk river. Reported ice against the shore on west side of every point and a little open water

Travel

July 19 (Monday).

on east side of every point. He saw no Caribou, but numerous signs of them and killed two Arctic Foxes, (about six miles apart), one at mouth of a burrow, and the other running about hunting.

#314 – 3133 Fox. ♂ Head dusty brown, face and cheeks mixed with silvery; throat gray, washed with brownish; inside of ears buffy, outside almost black. Back, shoulders and hips dusky yellowish brown, with a few sparsely scattered white hairs from head to tail, Dark stripe along back ca. 3 in. wide. Tail dusky above with thin buffy colored longer hair obscuring ground color; tail yellowish white below. Under parts, from throat to tip of tail, dirty yellowish white. Feet dusky brown, with silvery mixed in upper surface. Iris brown; nose black. L. 965 T. 343. Hf. 156.

#315 – 3133 Fox. ♀ Head dusty; face and cheeks lighter than preceding (more silvery hairs). Dusky area on back much wider, extending well down on sides*. Tail much darker, very thin light-colored hair on upper surface, and under half of tail dull buffy. Feet dusky brown, paler than preceding. Body nearly torn in Mus. 835 – 305 – 145.

*(Very few white hairs on back).

July 19 (Monday).

two and foreleg severed by soft-nose bullet.
Caught two fish in net in afternoon, one
large Salmon Trout (ca. 2 ft. long) "Kalūk'piK" and
one small "Kaloshūk." (sp. ?) "Whitefish".

Fish.

Billy returned about 10 a.m. with an adult ♂ White Fox, slightly larger than the young one V.S. 316. 3133 ♀
Back bluish Gray or Mottled color, with numerous
long white hairs. Head dusky, mixed with silvery
white. Belly dirty yellowish white. Several
patches of long white winter fur adhering to
sides, but very loose. Tail buffy white, with
tawny brown underfur. Feet dusky. Meas. 940-327-16

White Fox.

Last night the N.W. wind blowing in shore
off point where we had last camp, piled
up a long pressure ridge of ice about ½ mile
off shore, about 20-25 ft. high, where the day
before there had been open sea, or a few
flat floating cakes of ice. The ice is piled
up there as high as in the winter time.
Caught one small fish in net about midnight,
and had to take in net on account of wind
shifting and bringing in floating ice.

Travels

July 20 (Tuesday)

M.T. +27° +36½ at 1:00 a.m. +42° at 12 m.
Light East wind in morning. N.E. in afternoon
and ice slowly floating westward. Bright
sunshine all day. Dried out stuff wet by
yesterday's rain. Almost no bird life here.
Wind died down about 9:00 p.m. Saw Snowy
Owl sitting on tundra about 300 yds from camp,
but it soon flew away. +38° at 11:00 p.m. Too much
floating ice all day to set fish nets.

July 21 (Wednesday). M.T. +38° +46°
at 7:00 a.m. Wind freshened after midnight
clearing most of the ice and of lagoon between
here and the chain of small islands 3 or 4 miles
out. Cloudy. Brisk shower 4:30 a.m., but
lasting only a few minutes. Cloudy until about
9:00 a.m. Started east at 7:00 a.m. paddling
across bay 1½ miles to point, crossing shoal
between point and long sandspit submerged
at high tide. Then tracked with dogs
about ten miles. Entered sheltered bay at
mouth of creek about 1 mi. W. of western
mouth of Kuparuk River, about 11:00 a.m.

July 21 (Wednesday)
on account of rising waves. Wind continued to rise steadily until 3 or 4 pm. and continued to blow rather hard all night. breakers pounding on beach. A few large granite boulders in low water a few miles west of Kuparuk (ca. 2' or 3' in diam). Water 5-6 feet deep close to shore all along. Cut banks 8-10 ft. high underlain by ground ice, and sand and gravel beach. (Dandelions in bloom common on banks; leaves small and sparse.) A flock of 12-15 ♂ Eiders (white backs) seen flying west the first ♂'s seen since June 30. ♀ Eiders seen in small bunches (2-6) all along coast, and numerous ♂ Old-squaws.

Saw one flock of eight American Golden Plovers running about on top of high dry bank. No geese seen. Two days ago Billy saw many geese inland. Two would fly, and most of them swam out into the lakes. He thinks they are beginning to moult. Two years ago Stefansson chased Black Brants between here and Colville, & this season,

Travel
Pac. Eiders
Golden Plover
Geese
B. Brant

July 21 (Wednesday)

which were unable to fly, and were accompanied by young nearly grown. Set nets outside bar and caught five Arctic Char and one Kaloshuk. Water very roily from waves. (A few Snowflakes seen at place where driftwood was piled up, and a few Longspurs and Gull.) Billy paddled kayak up little stream in morning to look for deer, but saw none. Mirage very bad. It is very hard to land inland at this season. Mosquitoes are troublesome whenever it is at all warm, or wind is not blowing strongly. A great portion of the country is covered by ponds, lakes and marshes; and a slightly cold wind raises a fog very quickly, and bright sunshine immediately causes a mirage, so that small objects are magnified and stationary objects appear to move about. A Longspur may look like a Goose, a Jaeger like a Fox, or a Goose like a Caribou. The best time to land is about midnight, when the sun is low, and

Travel.

July 21 (Wednesday)
during the early morning hours, if
there is no fog. At that time of day
the mirage is less troublesome.

Kuparuk river delta, Alaska

Weather

July 22 (Thursday). M. T. +42°.
Slept until about 2:00 a.m., nearly twelve
hours, having slept only two or three
hours the night before, and very little
for two or three days. Wind still strong
from N.E. Bright sunshine until 12 M.
Wind moderated about 3:00 a.m. and we
started east again at 6:00 a.m. One large
Kalukpik and 11 Kaloshuk in two nets — nine
fish (including Salmon Trout) in net outside the
bar in salt water, the others in river.
Last night six fish — one Kaloshuk and five
Au-ark-pluk. Tracked along beach to Western
mouth of Kuparuk (Koposova on 19th) river, when
wind shifted to S.W. Stopped a little while
at three recent house ruins on west bank.
Sailed across channel to fairly deep water (5–6
ft. at 10 yds. from shore. Crossed mouth of

July 22 (Thursday) Flock of 7 Am. Golden Plover seen just at west edge of delta. G. Plover

second channel (with small island about 4 or 5 yds. outside on which many large Gulls were resting. They flew up screaming when we sailed by, but we did not stop.) Water shallow (1'6" to 3'–4'), and a long series of mud-flats ahead. Wind shifted to N.W. causing heavy sea and breakers on flats. Put back into second channel (Channel over 8 ft. deep close to west side), and sailed up stream 3–4 miles, intending to come down a more Easterly channel and avoid the worst mud-flats. Current swift, bottom covered with large pebbles; banks high, sandy earth cuts, (level in most places), but at intervals there are little bunches of series of high sand ridges. Landed several times to scan the country for Caribou, and collected several species of flowering plants growing on sandy ridges. (Some of which I have not observed before). Stefansson sighted a herd of Caribou (at least 100) along the crest of a series of low sand hills to eastward, and moving quite rapidly seaward, against N.W. wind.

Travel.

Plants.

Caribou.

July 22 (Thursday).

Travel

Caribou

We took the boat down stream about ½ mile, hoping to approach near enough to intercept them without being tangled up among the numerous delta channels. The Caribou now seemed to have turned about and were moving SE with wind, so we took the boat up again a little beyond our last observation point. Here were stopped by shallow water and had to leave boat, P. remaining to make camp (about noon). Billy, V.S. and I went after the Caribou, portaging kayak across country about 300 yds to next deep channel, and ferried across one man at a time, hauling kayak back each time with track line. Channel about 75 yds. wide and 4–6 ft. deep. Found out later that we could have gone up around a bend about 300 yds south, where the river splits into three channels (with shoals) and is easily forded. Approached within 400–600 yds. of the Caribou along a little creek valley, and as they were moving steadily SE, we separated, to form a line across

Caribou

July 22 (Thursday)

their path, in a bow shaped formation, and intercept them; whichever way they broke on discovering us. V.S. worked across a line of hills to Eastward, while I remained on West flank. A bunch of half a dozen, two does with fawns, came within 50 yds of my front, while the main body kept along the ridge - moving directly towards Stefansson's position, feeding as they moved. I counted 540 in sight at one time, and a number of others came over from behind hills later, so I believe there were at least 175 in this herd. The large bunch on the hill were startled once (probably from catching scent of camp, having moved nearly into line with it - Lee), turned and ran 200-300 yds back, stopped, and began to work east. A single fairly large buck wandered out on flank of herd and sighted V.S. who killed it by a shot through shoulders. The main bunch kept moving East or southeast. We joined forces again, &c

July 22 (Thursday)

Caribou

de Emboweled the Caribou, and, as the main body of Caribou were quietly grazing on the north side of a long lake about a mile north of us, we started after a couple which V.S. had seen at first about a mile from the other bunch. They soon caught our wind and we kept on going East, wading over perfectly flat, swampy ground, with many lakes and ponds, hardly a solid spot of ground. Lake proved to be about two miles long and ½ to 1 mi. wide. Met another herd of Caribou, about 75, moving SE. East of lake. Lay down behind a ridge and waited for them to come to us. V.S. and Billy opened the firing on the right, three ♀'s dropping on the spot, and four more ♀'s and ♂'s and one ♀ farther on, and scattered. The herd, as usual, ran a little way, stopped to look around, and retreated again. Before we began firing, we had noticed another bunch of Caribou, a mile or two SE. further inland, probably 300 Caribou, with field glass made out to be

July 22 (Thursday).
Now (about 4 p.m. the wind died down, and as the day was very warm, mosquitoes appeared in countless swarms, causing great annoyance while we were skinning deer, and traveling home. Two fawns returned, looking for their mothers, and wandered about 400-500 yds. away. They afterward came within 50-100 yds. of Stefansson, who was lying down, but a cloud of mosquitoes repeatedly flew into his face while he was taking aim, and the fawns took alarm and had run some distance before he fired and missed. Skinned and measured two Caribou for scientific specimens:

#317. Caribou ♀ fawn. Length (nose to tip of tail 49 in.; Height at shoulder, 33; Depth chest 12½; Tail 5. Coat mostly mouse gray, the young brown fawn-colored hair having all fallen from back, a few patches remaining on nape of neck and considerable on flanks and belly. Horns velvety, about four inches long, nearly straight. Stomach full of grass, no milk

Caribou

Mosquitoes

July 22 (Thursday)

#318. ♀ Caribou (adult) Length 75. Height at shoulders 42½. Depth chest 19. Tail 6. Most of old coat shed, some old patches of hair on sides and belly. Back neck & shoulders dark grey. Head black.

Another female, apparently same age, nearby, had much more old hair, and the sides of neck with a tawny tint to the grey. Some Caribou in the herd appeared almost black, particularly two large bucks with large, nearly grown (?) horns; while a few were still nearly white. Hair much better and longer than 11 days ago, good enough for clothing. Total killed today — seven adults and one fawn. ♂♂♀♀♀♀♀

Rain falling all evening. Calm until a few minutes before midnight, when a violent gust struck us from S.W. and blew all night, tearing tipi across over.

July 23 (Friday) M.T. 35° Wind S.W. all day. Cloudy forenoon. Sunshine afternoon

July 23 (Friday)
Light snow falling until 8:30 a.m. Cloudy after 2 p.m. and misty rain after 11:00 p.m. Skinned head and feet of bear killed yesterday. Also cleaned skull. P.S. went out to hunt for a more easy route to the main lake than the long cross-country swampy portage we made yesterday. Decided it would be easier to take canoe down to sea and portage meat thither. Billy and I went out after the first Caribou killed yesterday (8) It was in fine condition — some back fat, and considerable fat on haunches, sides and intestines. Marrow white, firm and sweet. Most of old hair had been shed, quite uniformly, instead of in patches. The loose hair which remained brushes off easily.

Saw a pair of Black-bellied Plovers, a Swoop Owl, pair of Parasitic Jaegers, and a few Longspurs and Snowflakes (Red Phalaropes fairly common still in red plumage). Billy found a nest of Pectoral Sandpiper about one hundred yds from camp; four eggs. He set a snare for the

July 23 (Friday)

bird, but she carried off snare, stick and all. V.S. flushed a Sandpiper on low land between two rivers, and marked spot. I went over about 1.30 p.m. and flushed a ♀ Pectoral Sandpiper from a set of four eggs. She remained on the nest until I nearly stepped on her, then fluttered away along grass tops, in a bee-line for about 40 yds, then stopped. As I followed she would fly a few yards further, and longer at each flight, and I could not get near. I lay down near the nest and the bird came back to investigate, but did not resume sitting. Nest in a thick clump of grass on low dampish ground (no water); a fairly deep hollow in the ground, lined with dead grasses and leaves. Four eggs, incubation advanced, nearly ready to hatch.

Pectoral Sandpiper

Flushed a Black throated Loon from a little pond, which circled around two miles screaming and half an hour later a pair from the same pond. I walked around pond but could not find nest. They rise from water by flapping and splashing along surface. I have seen the Red throated loon rise directly from water like a Duck.

Pacific Loon

July 23 (Friday)

Went to sleep while lying down watching the Pectoral Sandpiper's nest, and did not wake up for an hour and a half, until the rain had nearly soaked me through.

Kuparuk River, Alaska.

July 24 (Saturday). M.T. +42. +44 at 3ᵒᵘ pm. 44° at 6ᵒᵘ pm. Temperature of river water, 48° at 6ᵒᵘ pm. River fell from 8 in. to 1 ft. yesterday pm. leaving boat stranded. Water rose about one inch today before 3ᵒᵘ p.m. We had to unload boat, put one half a load in mid-stream, portage the other half about 150 yds. down stream beyond a series of gravel bars, and reload there and put on camp gear. Started down stream at 5:ᵒᵘ pm. with brisk S.W. wind. Wind S.W. all day, until 9ᵒᵘ pm. when it shifted to S. and S.E. Cloudy most of day with occasional bright spells, alternating with light sprinkling showers every hour or two.

Collected set of Pectoral Sandpiper's eggs, which Billy found yesterday. The bird returned to the nest repeatedly, but avoided the snare. Four eggs, incubation advanced. One egg infertile.

Nov. 1900

Pectoral Sandpiper

July 24 (Saturday).

Found a fairly deep channel out of the river as far as the line connecting the headlands on either side. Outside of this, water was very shallow, although few mud-flats were visible. The depth of water was somewhat variable, due to low bars, and we had to continually jump out and wade out for a either side to find a channel 18" deep, enough to float our boat; then drag boat across shoal to channel. Had difficulty paddling boat to mainland against S.E. wind. Tracked boat as far as old cache and made camp [Near Point Stoltenson, Tellingwell, B.IV.] while Billy paddled kayak across bay to look for dogs which had failed to follow around. Many boulders in water near shore. Saw a few large fish swim out from shore. This point is said to be a famous fishing place. Many old camp traces, chips, bones, shavings, etc here. A number of Gulls seen on sandflats. In the mirage, a single Gull often loomed up like a post or a lighthouse. Black billed Plovers seen near Camp. Hard shower about midnight

July 25 (Sunday) M.T. +37° + 45° at 11:00 a.m.
Strong N.E. wind after 8:00 a.m. As the waves were breaking too strong we had to unload and beach the boat. Bright sunshine all day and night. Sun is getting very near the horizon at midnight. Chilly all day, in spite of sunshine. Wind blowing from ice pack not more than 2 mi. off shore. Billy, V.S. and I started after meat with seven pack dogs at 2:30 p.m. After making some long detours around long lakes and marshes we reached the meat caches about 6:30 p.m. The Gulls had touched every cache picking off much meat and fat. One deer which had been disemboweled — and left unskinned, had a large patch of skin on rump and hip picked off and most of the back fat, and half the saddle eaten. At another place they had eaten a double strip of "back-sinew" meat which Billy had stripped off, and on a deer which I had skinned, leaving backmeat, they had torn up most of back and picked the ribs clean. Several Gulls and a pair of Par. Jaegers were hovering

July 25 (Sunday).

overhead in noisy protest. Packed home all the skins and meat of three deer, and parts of two others, leaving the remainder for tomorrow. Each dog carried a packsaddle weighing about 50 lbs. While crossing a low place between two large lakes, intersected by numerous little ridges of dry moss, we flushed a Long-billed Dowitcher (?) which fluttered away through the grass as if she had a nest. When I stopped to look around she returned, approaching slowly, with wings half spread, and uttering a low note of protest. Careful search by three of us failed to reveal a nest, so we went on about 200 yds and lay down, watching with field-glasses. The bird flew nervously about from spot to spot, sometimes running, sneaking or crouching in the grass. Finally she settled down in a clump of grass. Stefansson advanced; the bird flew up when he was about 20-30 yds. away, but advancing to the spot he picked up a single downy

July 25 (Sunday).

Young bird, apparently not more than a day old. No sign of a nest, or of other young birds, although we searched carefully. The old bird remained most of the time within 12–15 ft. of us, so I could examine her very closely. Young bird colored above variegated. Crown umber brown, bordered by white stripe, and a light brown one below this; cheeks whitish; neck tawny. Back darker, feathers mostly black at bases, some with seemingly brown and some with silvery tips, giving a frosted appearance. Throat buffy; lower throat and breast ochraceous, belly pale. Bill gray; feet greenish gray, mottled with dusky. * 319. ♀(?). [No. 119219, A.M.N.H.]

Our dogs flushed a ♀ Willow Ptarmigan and a brood of nine or ten young at base of a low hill. The young sprang about ten feet into the air and flew in all directions, dropping to the ground not more than 10–15 yds away and hiding in the short grass. I marked one alight and caught it after a short chase. The short grass did not afford much concealment, and it tried to escape

July 25 – (Sunday)

by running and flying a few feet at a time. Billy caught another one, but we could find no more. The female bird fluttered along the ground, and the dog pursued her nearly half a mile.

*320. Willow Ptarmigan – juv. ♂ (?)

*321. " " " ♂ (?)

Back, wings, tail, sides of breast and flanks barred and mottled black, brown and white, like adult ♀.; belly pale yellow, breast ochraceous yellow.; throat yellow. Crown umber brown, bordered by a narrow black line, extending along nape of neck to back. Cheeks yellowish; a black stripe from posterior end of eye to a point behind auriculars. Bill black.

Willow Ptarmigan

On our way home, about 4 miles from coast, saw a Black-bellied Plover running about uttering a plaintive cheep, or a melancholy tu-lik. When I lay down, she ran up within 15 yds. of me, and then turned and ran away in a crouching attitude, with wings slightly drooping. Billy soon found the nest, four

Black-bellied Plover

July 25 (Sunday)

Plover

eggs arranged with points together in a slight depression in a dry patch of tundra, between two hills. Ground covered with dull gray moss, with occasional tufts of grass. Nest lined with white lichen fibres. One egg was slightly dented from inside, and taking it up, I could hear the chick inside chirp occasionally, so I left the eggs.

Yellow-legs

Saw several Red-backed Sandpipers, singly and in bunches of four or five. A few Pectoral Sandpipers and Red Phalaropes.

Red-b. Sandpiper

Several pairs of Red Phalaropes flew about "peeping" as if they had young. A few Eiders and 2 Old-squaws seen, and a flock of about a dozen small Gulls in a little lake. Had much trouble crossing a labyrinthine marsh near camp. There was a perfect maze of blind channels and bridges ending in deep grass-concealed ditches, which proved to be impassable. Tried several times to find crossing-place, but failed and had to go around far to

Red Phalarope

Old-squaw

Travel

July 25 (Sunday).

Travel. westward. Dogs with packs, sighted camp and made straight for it, ending up by striking end of some narrow peninsula and lying down. As they generally refused to come back, we had to go out for them and bring them around a long task, as they were badly scattered.

Weather. July 26 (Monday). M.T. +32½° +33½ at 2 a.m. +38 at 2 p.m. Bright sunshine — Fog at 12 m. Wind still strong in N.E. 16 fish in nets this a.m. Skinned three birds and head and feet of one Caribou skin. V.S. and Billy went after meat. They found dog "Roger" by meat cache stuffed full. He had cracked and eaten marrow from over a dozen marrow bones which we had roughed out, and also eaten a good many ribs leaving the solid meat. V.S. examined the Black-bellied Plovers nest found yesterday. The eggs were still unhatched, although the young birds were "peeping" inside. — Fog cleared away about 6 p.m. and sun shone all night.

Travel. Blackb. Plover's nest.

Weather.

Weather

July 27 (Tuesday). M.T. +36. +36° at 2ᵒᵒ a.m. +54° at 2:ᵒᵒ p.m. + 40° at 7ᵒᵒ p.m. Strong N.E. wind all day. Bright sunshine all day. Hoisted in nets. Took picture of large rack covered with drying Caribou meat, with Camp in background. 11 – 1/15 = B.S. 5:ᵒᵒ p.m. Waves too high to sail with our heavily loaded umiak. Stefansson says that Capt. Cottle with "Belvidere" sailed by here two years ago today – the Earliest date on record for the whalers to go East.

Travel.

"Re-made" some salted bird skins and packed some eggs. Finished blowing some Ptarmigan eggs which have been "digesting" with solution of pancreatin. Process very slow because eggs have been cold most of the time. Vil and Billy went out to look for deer in the morning but returned home about midnight, as wind died down for about an hour.

Weather

July 28 (Wednesday). M.T. +36°. +36° at 1ᵒᵒ a.m. +39° at 3:30 p.m. Wind blowing up from N.E. stronger than ever after 3ᵒᵒ a.m. and sky becoming cloudy.

July 28. (Wednesday).

U.S. discovered an umiak beating up the coast westward against a strong N.W. wind about 7:00 a.m. It proved to be Ned Grey and son "Gallagher" going to Point Barrow. They reported that the ice is jammed up against the point 3-4 miles east of here, and is going out of the lagoon between mainland and chain of outside islands with a rush. Grey's boat was obliged to run outside the sandspits with the moving ice, and they were obliged to camp over night on a cake of grounded ice, and eat raw fish.

Ned Grey reports few Caribou to Eastward — none at Sabrichit, Kugura, or Skaroork. Jakuk has killed two in May in foothills back of Camden Bay. Many people now at Flaxman Island at trading rendezvous, with little grub. He said he had collected over fifty Black Brants' eggs one day on a little island back of Long Point (Camden Bay), and his boys had found several Swans' nests (more than ever before). He had examined over twenty "Pacific Eiders" nest on a sandspit

Pacific Eider

July 28. (Wednesday). [Egg Island or Stump Island of Jeffreyville Pl. II]
a little way East of here, but found neither eggs nor young birds. Young Gulls seen, now able to fly.

July 29. (Thursday) M.T. +36°.

Weather

Strong N.W. wind all night; heavy surf. Wind dropped about 6:30 a.m. and shifted to North. Dense fog. Made preparations to start east, intending to work east 5–6 miles along shore of a large bight, to long point West of Shaiavanak bk (Sawarutk) delta. Wind changed to N.E. about 7:30 and became too strong for sailing. About 10:00 a.m. two umiaks of Cape Smythe traders (men, women, and children) drifted in out of the fog. They said the bulk of the trading fleet were ahead and at least two umiaks were behind.

Travel

Black Brant

Snow Geese

One boat had about a dozen Black Brant (Branta nigricans) and five lesser Snow Geese (Chen hyperborea), killed near Cape Halkett. All had shed the wing quills and were unable to fly. Measured several Snow Geese,

July 29. (Thursday).

Snow Geese.

Bills of Snow Geese averaged from 1.90 to 2.25; tarsi 2.75 — 2.90.
The vicinity of Cape Hallett is said to be the most famous hunting ground on the coast for killing moulting geese. In the days before fire-arms were generally used by Eskimos the place was frequently visited during the moulting season.

Travel.

Mr. Grey says that the present season is the latest, as to ice conditions, etc., which he has known during 8 — 10 years on this coast.
Two more umiaks sailed by about noon, outside the sand-spits, but rounded them and put back. One boat belonged to Sharawanna, "Pretty Boat-header", the other to ——.

Sharawanna was with the party of fifteen who were carried off with Jack Hadley in two of Brower's boats at Point Barrow last May. They were adrift "five Sundays" and landed near Cape Lisburne. They killed two Polar Bears and were not hungry, but suffered greatly from lack of tobacco. Capt. Klingenberg and Mr. Storkerson, who went adrift shortly after the

July 29 (Thursday).
other party, came safely to land near Jay Cape.

July 30 (Friday). M.T. +34 +38 at 9:00 a.m. Strong N.W. wind. Less fog than yesterday, but variable and shifting. In camp all day. +36° F. at midnight.

Weather

July 31. (Saturday) M.T. +35°. +42° at 6:00 a.m. Wind in West at 5:00 a.m. and continued fairly strong until about noon, then light W. wind until 8:00 p.m., when it shifted to N.E. Sunshine at intervals all day; flying clouds. Sailed East at 7:45 a.m. The Point Barrow boats lightened us by taking part of our load, about 150 lbs. ammunition, 200 lbs. flour, Sears, rice, etc. 150 lbs. skins etc. 200 lbs. tobacco, and two dogs (about 900 lbs. in all). Sailed across the small bay to a long point, dogs following on land. Dogs balked at 9:00 a.m. and N.E. wind blew back after them. They started back to Ned Grey's camp, he chasing them. He said that

Weather

Travel

July 31 (Saturday)

they stopped to look at him several times at not more than 200 yd. then turned and ran on. He does not believe that dogs can see distinctly at more than 200 yd. When they finally recognized him they came running up with great joy. Loaded dogs in boat and started ahead about 1 P.M. making ESE. across a large deep bay, [Prudhoe Bay; Leffingwell, pp. IV] at least 8 or 10 miles across mouth; and crossing some distance inside mouth we could not see the land at southern end. After sighting land on eastern side, we headed more to NE. cruising about half a mile off shore to point at western Edge of delta. [Herald Point; Leffingwell, pp. IV] [Sagavanirktok R. Jeff.] Reached 2:30 P.M. Water whitish with mud for some distance west of point. Water in bay over 8 ft. deep, 1 mile off shore. Shoal for half a mile off point, less than 6 inches, and we had to alternately paddle and drag the boat nearly straight off shore for about a mile then gradually worked NE. keeping about 3 miles outside the string of small flat Upper islands across the mouths of the river.

Travel.

July 31 (Saturday)

Keeping in about 3 fl. g water. The main stream seems to come out rather more than half way to eastward, just west of the largest island. Putelarayuk's cache is on this island. Fairly deep water close in shore here. Island covered with tundra, and small ponds. Arrived here 8 a.m., and had lunch. Numbers of Snow Buntings and Longspurs seen on island, and a few Gulls on sandbar west of island. Large flocks of Pacific Eiders (large species with back white and under parts black), were flying west all day, in flocks of 50 to 100, going low over the water in dense bunches, sometimes giving the appearance of land rising on the horizon. Passed a pair of Black-throated Loons in water at fairly close range.

East of Putelarayuk's island, there is another large bay. 8–10 miles across at mouth of Shavirovik river. The eastern mouth of Sawanuktuk enters a lagoon just east of island, coming from S.W. Lagoon sheltered by a string of sandbars at entrance

July 31 (Saturday).
A few high "pingoks" visible at bottom of bay. Stefansson's party killed several deer there last fall. Left P's island at 9:00 p.m. and wind being too strong to make across to Shaviovik, we sailed and paddled down the bay, making camp about midnight in a little sheltered cove. Sun set bright. It probably went under two or three days ago, but cloudy weather has hidden the sun for several days. [Wesley Kadleroshilik River, Leffingwell, Pl. IV]

The Shaviovik (Sawanuktok on 1906 map) flows out at end of a long broad peninsula, probably built out by river, with a large deep bay on each side 8-12 miles across, not marked on charts. Either one is as large as Harrison Bay. [Prudhoe Bay on West, Foggy Island Bay on East side; Leffingwell, Pl. IV]

August 1. (Sunday). M.T. +32°. +33° at 2:00 p.m.
Sunshine bright in forenoon. Strong N.E. wind, heavy swell and breakers. Dense, drifting fog after 4:00 p.m. Billy and I ascended a high isolated hill about 1½ miles to S.W. and

August 1 (Sunday)

Pectoral Sandpiper

Red-b. S.

Longspurs

Snow B.

Walter

Walter

Walter

Looked over the country. No game seen. Flushed a Pectoral Sandpiper which seemed to have young near by, as she fluttered along, and crouched on the ground, uttering a plaintive "peep." Saw one pair and one single Red-backed Sandpiper (black patch on belly still remaining); a few Semipalmated Sandpipers. Red-throated Loons. Saw several Lapland Longspurs (old and young), and young Snow Buntings flying about. Nelson says that according to Sakaraichi, the Point Barrow traders are due at Flaxman Island when the young Amaulik (Snowflakes) are able to fly.

August 2 (Monday). M.T. +30° +42° at 12 M. Strong N.E. wind all day. Sunshine for a little while in afternoon. Fog at intervals. A few Snow Buntings around camp. — two or three adult males with stub tails; also a few Longspurs. Fog so dense at 11 p.m. that every grass blade was covered with drops of dew and everything outside was wet. One could not see 100 yards. Billy was anxious to get to

August 2 (Monday).

Flaxman Island before the traders left that place, and started about midnight to walk to Flax. Isl. taking six dogs with him. He thinks he can ford the Shaviovik river. Small river a little way west of Shaviovik is called Kalixoshilik, from a high and conspicuous hill which it passes about 15 miles inland. Creek too deep to ford near its mouth. [Kadleroshilik, Leffingwell, Pl. IV]

Travel

August 3 (Tuesday). M.T. +33° +37° at 5ʰᵐ a.m.

NE. Wind died down about 2ʰᵐ a.m. and light S.W. breeze sprung up at 5ʰᵐ a.m. Very little fog. Tide a foot lower than last night. Sailed at 7ʰᵐ a.m. Wind went down before we reached point SW. of Shaviovik Island. Struck shoal water and had to make a long detour westward to go around a long sandspit on W. end of island. Deep water at end and outside of island, and we take Grounded all along north side. West end of high land marked by a large beacon or look-out built of driftwood. Here the natives used to camp in

Weather

[Tigvariak island; Leffingwell, Pl. IV.]

[Lion point; Franklin; Leffingwell, Pl. IV]

Travel

August 3 (Tuesday)
Summer and watch for passing ships. One old house and an ice house on island. Going East from island (left 1.30 pm) we had to paddle against NE. wind, stronger towards evening, and did not reach mainland (Ca. 8 mi. E of island) until nearly 10 p.m. North of Shaorvik Island the ocean appeared to be free from ice. Except for occasional cakes. The bay East of island was filled with floating masses of ice for 2 a 3 miles off shore. Ice loose and floating, with channels between cakes in most places. Saw several Natjirt (Small Seals) and several Ugruk (Bearded Seals) while crossing bay. The Ugruk generally plunge forward when going down, and show the back and often the hind flippers, making a great splash. The Natjirt usually settle quietly down, without causing more than a light ripple. Found Billy with his dogs at end of a long sandspit, about 12-15 mi. W of Flaxman Island. He had run into a herd of fourteen Caribou in the fog last night near Shaorvik River, and lost three dogs. He succeeded

Natjirt. Bearded Seal. Ugruk. Caribou.

August 3 (Tuesday).

Patton. Carlson. In holding back three dogs and found the others in the morning. Although very close to deer, the dogs prevented him from shooting. He killed one Red-throated Loon. Saw three Semipalmated and one Pectoral Sandpiper on Shaviovik Island, a few Snowflakes, and a Parasitic Jaeger, and a few Gulls flying over. Camp tonight at little sandspit, behind a little hook which affords good protection from N. and E. winds. Spot marked by three upright poles about 300 yds. from end of sandspit. +35° at 10:30 p.m.

Reed. Walker. August 4 (Wednesday). M.T. +35° Sunshine in morning. Stormy N.E. wind. Started east about noon, tracking along beach with four dogs in harness. Deep water close inshore; beach coarse, loose gravel. Several lagoons along shore, with open inlets which we had to paddle across. Wind died down about 8 p.m.

Travis. W. Walker. Black rain-clouds appeared in south and broke out in a brisk shower, accompanied by several

Mosquitoes

Numbers of mosquitoes seen along sandspit — first seen since July 23rd

August 4 (Wednesday) Loud peals of thunder and some flashes of lightning (first thunder or lightning I have observed in Arctic). Strong N.W. wind came up suddenly about 6:00 p.m, very hard for half an hour, then dying down; freshened again about 9:00 p.m., and blew strong all night. Reached Flaxman Island about 11:00 p.m and camped at west end of timber land. Plenty of wood on west sandspit. Saw many Old-squaws, a few & Eiders, Snowflakes, Lapland Longspurs, one Parasitic Jaeger, and a few Gulls. Showers at intervals all day, with occasional gusts of warm (almost hot) wind from N.E.

Weather

August 5 (Thursday). M.T. +38° Wind West. Very light at 9:00 a.m. Light sprinkling rain. Wind S.W. after 10 am. and increased all day. Sailed small around to Leffingwell house and took on board a few goods which we had cached there. The "Duchess of Bedford" had broken from mooring and drifted across to mainland nearly opposite house.

Travel

Sailed to Satawanna's house at east end of island, and remained behind sandspit for several hours (until about 8:00 p.m.

August 5th (Thursday) Numbers of Semipalmated Sandpipers, a few Pectoral Sandpipers, two Black-bellied Plovers, a few Lapland Longspurs, one Snowy Owl, numerous Snow Buntings (both adults and young), seen on Maxman Island. No people on island. Everybody camped at [Brownlow Point, Franklin] [Cunningham Inlet, Coffman Island, Pl. V.] point, head Western mouth of Rugura with Cape Smythe traders. Northeastern End of F.I. beating down fast; great masses of Earth and ground ice continually beating loose and falling down into water. Few boulders on East end, but very numerous all along South and west end of island, and lying imbedded in tundra on top of island. Ground ice apparently not Continuous, i.e., has great fissures filled with mud. Earth stratified in places, some brown loblolly peat, black mud, bluish clayey "silt," and some places ochraceous.

Late in afternoon Ilavinut, accompanied by Pilalo and ——, sailed our whaleboat across against headwind, and we loaded part of our stuff, dogs, etc., in whaleboat and

August 5 (Thursday)

[Cunning]

Crossed over to Eskimo camp on Kugruk River. He had repaired and repainted the whaleboat and spent summer around mouth of Hula-hula and Baiter Island. No deer were seen, and few fish caught, as water was too clear for gilling. He killed two seals, and plenty of Ducks and Geese. Pitalo killed one deer near Collinson Point. Auktelik and Kopak, her husband, crossed the mountains via Hula-hula pass, to hunt for summer deer-skins, sledding over.

Cariboo

August 6 (Friday). Trading rendezvous at mouth Kugruk river, SE of Flaxman Island. M.T. +35. +38° at 3:00 a.m. Wind died down about 3:00 p.m. A number of people and here from Herschell Island. One sloop, sailed by Nikakzak, formerly owned by Mr. C. Stein, and two whaleboats. 31 tents in camp, 5 whaleboats, and 17 umiaks. A few fish are being caught, but the time is mainly given up to bartering goods. A few snowflakes flying about 6:00 p.m. S.W. wind all afternoon and evening

Trading Rendezvous

August 7 (Saturday). M.T. +32. +38 at 12 M.
S.W. wind all night and still blowing at noon. Iakut sailed for Herschell Island during the night. A few snowflakes in air at noon. Small pellets of hail or sleet fell at intervals during afternoon. A number of fish (Whitefish and Salmon Trout) caught last night. Billy traded for a .30-30 Winchester and about 50 cartridges, with other things, giving the Katakoanna umiak, a wolverine skin, badger skin coat, etc. to his "partner" from Point Barrow. Pannigabloak decided to go east with our party. Yesterday she could not go, as her mother had come down from the east, with the intention of dying here next winter. Today the old lady thinks she would prefer to be buried at Herschell Island, and thinks she will stay with her son, as he has a sloop and could probably carry her remains to that place. The old lady is apparently in good health, but everyone resents the imputation that she will not die the coming winter, because she has said that she will.

McCutcheon
Fish
Esk. Kadluig
Travel.

August 7 (Saturday).
Sailed East at 7:00 p.m. with fair wind; accompanied by Pikalo and his father Kunaulek with whaleboat. Niñaksak took about 1000 lbs. of our goods in his sloop, I going with him in sloop. The rest of the party in our own whaleboat and umiak. [Kugmenek; Jeffersonville, Pl. V.] Reached Long Point (west of Camden Bay about midnight and stopped for lunch. U.S. shot five Old squaws here, many seen. Clear night. Cold; water freezing in little ponds.

August 8 (Sunday) M.T. +28. +28 at 1:30 a.m. +32° at 2:00 a.m. Wind died down towards morning and we made camp at 6:00 a.m. on a long sandspit a little west of mouth of Saliachek River (about 5 mi. E. of Collinson Point. [Anderson Point; Jeffersonville, 1919, Pl. V.] We went up on hills on mainland to look for Caribou, but saw no trace. Took cartridges filled with about a dozen Mannlicher cartridges. Flushed a flock of eight Rock Ptarmigan and killed one. They were very tame, running along ground at about 30 yds distance, and not flying more than 10 yds. when flushed. The one killed was apparently a

Mosquitoes

August 8 (Sunday). Mosquitoes fairly numerous on tundra in forenoon. Long-tailed bird; back very finely barred with grey and blackish; wings white. Saw four Am. Golden Plovers, Snowy Owl, a few Red Phalaropes (now in fall plumage, belly whitish), Pectoral and Semi-palmated Sandpipers, Snowflakes, Longspurs. Going back a second time after breakfast to look for cartridge belt I saw a flock of about a dozen Pintails on grassy shore of lagoon; and one Gadwall at entrance to burrow in cut bank of sea-coast. N.E. wind afternoon. Sunshine all day. 23 fish (mostly Kalutpit) in net this

Pintail

Gadwall

Weather

August 9 (Monday). M.T. +35° +52° at 6 00 p.m. Cloudy. N.E. wind. Wind shifted to S.W. about 9 00 p.m. and we sailed East at 11.00 p.m.; light rain falling. Wind over to mainland in evening; saw 3 or 4 Am. Golden Plovers, Snowy Owl and a flock of Pintails. 6 few Old-squaw in bay; and a few Semipalmated Sandpipers along shore. 6 fish in nets in evening

Birds

August 10 (Tuesday). M.T. +37° +37° at 7° a.m.

August 10 (Tuesday)
Wind in S.W. until 6:00 a.m. dying down just as we reached west sandspit of Baker Island. Made camp here at Nanuki cache, and had breakfast. Wind freshened again and we sailed at 9:00 a.m. Wind soon died down and veered to N.E. about noon. Landed and made camp on reef N.E. of East End of Baker Island, about 2 mi. N.W. of mouth of Jago river. Light sprinkling rain at intervals from midnight until about noon. Sunshine all afternoon. A few Golden Plovers seen swimming in open lagoon. They are unable to fly now, but swim easily away from a boat unless there is a pretty good sailing wind. They dive continually when approached and are very difficult to kill. Everything in my trunk cached near Baker Island was wet and moldy, papers, clothing and some of John Hegatveit the latter the most valuable.

Strong South wind at midnight; tide rising. Dark, cloudy. A few fish caught. Nanuki and ——'s boats overtook us about 10 a.m.

August 11 (Wednesday) M.T. +36° +52 at 11 a.m.
Up at 4:00 a.m. Wind S.W., lighter than at midnight. Cloudy. Sailed at 6:00 a.m. Wind S.W. gradually stronger until about noon. Passed Humphrey Point at 11:00 a.m. Marked by Cross ⛪ inscribed: Humphrey Pt. July 26th 1894. Hagarty Bk. Triton
About 4:00 p.m. landed about 6-8 miles East of Humphrey Point [North of Beaufort Lagoon] Kinn saw eight Caribou on mainland and all boats sped in. No wind. Caribou disappeared before we got to land. Saw a few Black-throated Loons, Gulls, Longspurs. Cloudy all day; bright sunshine after 6:00 p.m. No fish caught here.

August 12 (Thursday) M.T. +38° +42° at 8:00 a.m.
S.W. wind at 5:00 a.m. Sailed at 7:30 a.m., light rain. Sailed by Jay Reef from 10-12 m. Ice heaped high on shore, with a few open intervals for several miles. Much floating ice in sea outside. Ice pack about one mile off shore. Saw one Seal and Aiaki's boy shot one today. Wind shifted to NE. about 2:30 p.m.

August 12 (Thursday)

and we made camp in a little deep harbor near end of a long sandspit extending W from mainland. Mainland about 2½ miles across lagoon north of point of Sandspit (neighborhood of Demarcation Point?) Nobody seems to know the exact location of the "Point" (International Boundary, at intersection of 141st meridian with Arctic coast line) — or whether it is at bottom of a bay or at a cape. Sailed across to mainland in afternoon evening with Marinus and Stefansson. Saw a bunch of four Willow Ptarmigan on tundra near coast. Killed two females here, and one male not far away. Skinned ♂ #324 & Lagopus lagopus. Saw a few Snowflakes, Longspurs, Julls, an Parasitic Jaegr, and many Old-squaws. About a dozen Old-squaws were killed today. Most of them are unable to fly, but some can fly a short distance over the water, fluttering along. Sailed near a Black-throated Loon, which this morning tried to fly, but barely skimmed the surface, making a great splashing, going with the wind. N. says that loons can not fly up from the

Transcribed
W. Ptarmigan
Old-squaw
Pac. Loon

August 12 (Thursday).
water when a strong wind is blowing from
behind. Stefansson went inland several miles
nearly to the mountains (not more than 10 miles from
coast at this point), but saw no Caribou. He saw
numbers of Ptarmigan, and one brood of young
ones about as big as Meadow Larks.
He shot three Caribou here last summer, and
one party killed one August 18th.

Wildfowl

Caribou

August 13 (Friday) M.T. +36° +39° at 9:00 a.m. Cloudy.
Light rain at intervals all night. Moderate N.E.
wind. Quite a number of fish (20-30) fish caught
last night, both Whitefish and Salmon Trout (two
days Salmon Trout, 5-6 lbs. each). Three boats
out Sealing today. Billy saw three Seal
(one Ugruk). Sam Keligaut killed one Seal.
Dense fog after 10:00 a.m. Ikavuuk came
in about 8:00 p.m. with one Seal. Fog
denser than ever. +34° at 7:30 p.m.

Weather

Fish

Seal

August 14 (Saturday). M.T. +32° +45 at 12:00 M.
Sailed at 8:15 a.m. with fair S.W. wind.

Weather

August 14 (Saturday).

Sun came out brightly about 9:30 a.m. and shone until 5:00 p.m. Wind died down about 4:00 p.m. and we went ashore about 2:00 p.m. about 30 miles west of Herschell Island, seeing several Caribou on hill inland. Much floating ice and grounded icebergs (some 20 ft. high), so that we had to be continually dodging them. Entered a little harbor (lagoon) just wide and deep enough for boat entrance. Other boats landed for a little while on large icebank about half a mile offshore, saw many Seals and shot two — one sinking and lost. The one shot was nearly white, with obscured dusky spots along back. Pikalo shot a young Seal (half-grown), which was sleeping on the surface of the water, approaching within ten feet of it. The flesh and blubber of the young Seal was very agreeable to the taste, having none of the disagreeable or fishy flavor of the adult Seals. At 2:30 p.m. sailed after the Caribou which were quietly

August 14 (Saturday)

Caribou

Traveling along the side of a long, high ridge, only three or four miles from the mountains; slowly moving eastward. Light N.E. wind. Flushed a Ptarmigan or two. Willow Ptarmigan on tundra. Crossed a small stony-bottomed creek, with swift current, 2-3 ft. deep, and bordered by a narrow tangle of willow shrubs two and three feet high, and some with trunks as thick as an ordinary broom handle, much gnarled and bent. Not more than 1½ miles from coast. Saw three or four Tree Sparrows here, chirping rather loudly and fussily. Ascended to top of ridge to leeward of deer, and found that they had wandered into a little ravine where a small rivulet had made a strip of green grass. Billy started around to outflank the herd, while the five of us, U.S., Stannius, Pitka, Nicholson and myself remained behind the crest of hill. Before Billy could get around to his place, the deer caught sight of

Tree Sparrow

Willow Ptarmigan

August 14 (Saturday)

H's or Pitalo's head peeking over the top of the hill and ran away, being at the time about 300 yds. away. They did not circle but ran directly with the wind, stopping at about 600 yds. for an instant, then swerving northward, over the ridge towards the mountains by our valley. Our deer was wounded in the fore leg and started off alone towards the coast. U.S. and Scout followed Billy around the ridge, and succeeded in killing one small buck (perhaps 2-year-old). P. & N. started after the wounded deer, but a dense fog came up soon and they lost the deer, as well as themselves, and did not get in until 6 or 6 a.m.

Caribou

We finished skinning the deer and started home at 7 30 p.m., packing the skin and all the meat. Dense fog came up from sea about 8 00 p.m., so that we could not see 100 yds. When we struck the coast we could not tell which way to go. Started east, but after going about half a mile, stopped, while U.S. went ahead to explore. He

August 14 (Saturday).

returned in about half an hour, convinced that Camp was in the opposite direction. Retraced our steps and reached camp at 11.30, very chilly and wet; cold fog, and water freezing.

Caribou skinned for specimen. ✕326. ♂

Measurements: Length (nose to tip of tail 77½ in. Tail 6. Height at shoulder 40. Depth of chest 17. Shoulder to hip 34. Girth chest 43. Girth belly (Greatest circumference) 47. Girth loins 43. Girth foreleg 12. Girth hind leg 17. Girth neck (behind ears) 19. All the old hair had been shed and the coat was in its prime, very glossy and sleek. The animal was in good condition, but not fat — only a trace of back fat, and some fat around Kidneys. Horns in "velvet," but quite hard. Head and face nearly black, sides and shoulders becoming gray, belly white. Kumaiut saw from camp, from other Caribou some distance ahead of the ones we were stalking — all going East.

August 15th (Sunday). M.T. +3½. N.E. wind in forenoon, and foggy. Fog cleared about noon and wind died down. About 2:30 p.m. three or four Beluga (White Whales) passed by, going west, about 300 yds. from shore. They often plunged and splashed, showing half the body out of water. Saw one willow Ptarmigan near camp, and three Red Phalaropes. The Phalaropes have now moulted the red breast plumage. About 8 p.m. a light S.W. breeze sprang up, and we prepared to sail. Before our boat had passed, wind shifted again to N.E. and blew a stiff gale. While wind on coast was still blowing from S.W. we could see fog banks on mountain sides moving westward. Am trying to dry out some of the skins collected last summer. Although fairly dry when packed in "Cambridge Cows" inside of wooden chests, they are somewhat damp now, and a number of skins have patches of green mould, particularly

Weather

White Whales

Red Phalaropes

Ptarmigan.

August 15 (Sunday)
around the head and fast. S.W. wind after 9.00 p.m. Cloudy and dark.

August 16 (Monday). M.T. + 38° + 43° at 12 M.
S.W. wind in early morning. Wind shifted to N.E. about 3.00 a.m. and blew strongly from that quarter all day. Bright sunshine.
Boot unmade out of water and dried it.
Finished preparation of Caribou skin and head. Nigaksuk succeeded in killing the Caribou wounded two days before, and brought in skin, cacheing the meat about three miles East along the coast, and "not far" inland. Everybody out looking for Caribou today, but none were seen.
A two masted schooner was sighted at East end of Lagoon several miles to westward, about 6.00 p.m., but too far away to identify.
A flock of about a dozen Black Brant flew West along the beach about 7.00 p.m., the first Brant seen for some time, although flocks of Ducks are occasionally seen going West.

Travel
Weather
Caribou
Travel
Black Brant

Weather

August 17 (Tuesday). M.T. +35. +40 at 12 m.
Very light S.W. wind for a little while in
early morning. Log at 3:00 a.m. N.E. wind
last night had, nearly cleared sea of ice to Eastward
but packed it near mouth of Lagoon to Westward
Schooner seems a little nearer, beating its way
for out from shore. Stefansson decided to
go ahead with umiak to Herschel Island
in order to be sure and catch the ship. Billy
and Pannigabbk accompanies S., taking
three dogs. We were unable to get the sloop
and whaleboats out — grounded on account
of low tide. U.S. got away about 7:00 a.m.
and had light S.W. wind for about half an
hour. Then almost calm until 2:00 p.m. Ship
worked in within ½ mile of shore, and tide
having risen, we got out about 2:30 p.m.
and rowed out to the ship — the "Challenge,
Unalaska," Capt. Theodore Pedersen —
twelve days out from Pt. Barrow. Reports
sea fairly open. Two whalers were at
Cape Smythe when he left, the "Jennie" and

Travel

August 17 (Tuesday)

the "Kaluk". The "Kaluk" had mail for us, but Pedersen did not bring it. Laffingwell said to be on way up the coast with a sloop (Gasoline?) and a big outfit. Pedersen caught 300 lbs. whalebone, 9 ft. bone, last spring. Capt. Wm. Mogg still in Smith Bay with "Olga" on Aug. 9th, but expects to outfit at Pt. Barrow and come east before it freezes up. We worked about three miles west by tacking and rowing, and entered a little lagoon, with narrow 4 ft. entrance, at mouth of creek called Ivu-v(w)ik'. Brought in mess from Cache. Nugatchuk shot a Seal which stuck its head up within ten feet of boat. Four whitefish caught in gill net at entrance to lagoon in evening. Two schools of fish seen swimming in lagoon. Phalaropes numerous in water along shore, swimming about, continually bobbing the head and neck, and often picking up some tiny floating morsel on the surface with a motion so quick as to be difficult to detect. Sunshine all afternoon and evening. Sunset @ 9:

Dredlea

Travel

Red Phalarope

August 18 (Wednesday). W.T. +28. + 38° 8ª a.m. N.E. wind. Legal fog. Fifteen good sized Whitefish and one Salmon Trout in net this a.m. Wind shifted to S.S.W. about 9:00 a.m. Dense fog. Sailed a little after noon, but fog soon cleared away, and wind died down. Worked along 2 or 3 miles mostly by paddling; landed on a grounded ice floe about ½ mi. from land. Dipped up a few buckets of fresh water from holes melted in ice on top of floe. Kneyakshuk sighted some Caribou on mainland (about 1 mile from coast, with naked eye. Made a landing in mouth of a little rocky, bottomed creek. Landed about 12 m. (bright sunshine, light N.E. wind, and a few mosquitoes out). Followed bed of creek north for about a mile, and found that Caribou had apparently moved East. Crossed a long low ridge and saw five Caribou feeding in bottom of a narrow creek valley with high, steep earth and gravel banks (mixed with some shale or slate). Ikavinuk and Kneyakshuk started to work.

Flies. Weather. Travel. Caribou

August 18 (Wednesday).

down the creek, while Pitalo and I ran around to the top of ridge to eastward to cut off retreat in that direction. Just as we reached the top of the hill, a "valley" sang out just below us and we soon saw four deer break out about 300 yards further down (one ~~killed~~ wounded and dropped at first fire). The deer did not stop for some time, although we fired a number of times, but ascended to a higher ridge to the eastward, making a half circle around us. I fired one shot at 325 yds. (paced), and one deer dropped instantly in its tracks, lay quite still for about two minutes, then got up and made off toward the coast. The other three kept going ~~toward~~ south toward the higher foothills. We fired a few shots, and another young deer dropped about 300 yds. beyond the point at which we ceased firing. I started after my wounded 2 deer, and hunted for several hours, but lost the trail and had to give up. Ningakshuk started after the other two

August 18 (Wednesday)

Caribou

Left and succeeded in killing both (females) near top of first large foothill, about 3–4 mile from the coast. Mamayuk had started from the boats with a string of pack dogs, and with Slav. and Pikalo, got the skins and meat of these two deer down to the boats by 7:00 p.m. Slavinuk said that his ♀ deer was wounded badly, and when he approached, rose up and tried to attack him, using her horns, so that he was obliged to shoot her again. Slavinuk and Pikalo sailed about 9:00 p.m. against light N.E. wind, intending to camp on a harbor at point about 5 mi. further east. Tide had fallen so we had difficulty in getting the boats out — sloop was immovable. Navigator and wife returned with their booty about midnight. One of his female deer (a large one) was very fat — had a mass of "back fat" 3/4 to 1 in. thick, and about 2 ft. by 1 ft. in size. fat on ribs about 3/8 in. thick. Slavinuk's deer also had a quantity of back-fat. The "back-fat" has enough fascia tissue to hold it together.

August 18 (Wednesday)

when boiled, and being considered the choicest portion, naturally went into the pot at once. Saw a few single willow Ptarmigans on hills and got into the midst of a flock of three or four grown birds and half a dozen half-grown young. They ran along the ground ahead of us, at about 10 yds, and Pikalo tried to kill some by throwing his hunting knife. When pressed too closely, the birds would fly 20-30 yds. further on. Saw a number of Redpolls in willows along creek about 1 mile from coast, and numbers of American Pipits, along creek and on Uplands (Tundra); a few Snowflakes, Lapland Longspurs, and 2 pair of Parasitic Jaegers.

August 19 (Thursday) M. T. +35. +35° at 3 a.m. +33° at 3 p.m. Sunrise 3:05 a.m. Very light S.W. wind started up at sunrise. Tide has risen at least 12 in. since 9 p.m. Sailed 4 a.m. and reached next harbor at 6 a.m. Walked Ilumnik and Pikalo. Four of my dogs had run

August 19 (Thursday). Remains of old whale carcass noticed near noon camp. and also at Nunâlik.

Travel

away last night and followed whaleboat along beach. Three were here but "Lindy" was lost I started back at once, went some distance beyond old camp, but saw no dog. Returned at 11 a.m. and about half an hour later "Lindy" strolled in from mainland where he had been hunting on his own account. Lost ~~4~~ 5 hours of fine sailing wind. Started again at 12 m. with freshening N.W. wind. Gale gradually grew stronger, waves breaking over whaleboats, &c, dogs seasick, and we made into the little harbor entrance to big lagoon, just east of conspicuous hill or cone called Nun-â-tak, about 15 mi. S.W. of Herschell Island. Entrance to harbor very narrow (but deep), with dangerous reef on east side. Sloop nearly stood on beam ends when we ~~looked~~ to run in. After rounding point, anchor dragged, and we were unable to row sloop to land. Harriet came out in kayak, made line fast, and hauled us in. Waves splashing over ice-cakes, 10 ft. out of water.

August 19 (Thursday).

Pressed specimens of "Koug-a-rik" — a plant with tender, succulent, slightly acid heart-shaped leaves, bearing racemes of small brownish flowers; and of "I-rik"; a plant with leaves like willows, and fruit flowers cluster; both plants Eaten as relish by Esquimo. Usually a little seal oil is poured over a pan of the leaves, and they are eaten as we would eat lettuce.

A flock of 15-20 Snow Geese flew west about 7:00 a.m.

A single Marsh Hawk (Circus hudsonius) flew not more than twenty feet over my head, young bird with breast rich buffy.

August 20 (Friday) M.T. +30°. +35° at 9:00 a.m. Howling gale still blowing from N.W. Stmr. "Karluk" appeared to W. about 9:30 a.m. Snowflakes flying thickly for a few minutes about 3:00 p.m. Wind strong at WNW at 5:00 p.m.; Sun shining faintly.

August 21 (Saturday) M.T. +28° +33° at 9:00 a.m. Cloudy. Wind in N.W. stronger than yesterday. Big waves. Flock 100± Black Brants flew W. in morning. Ground white with snow. Herschell Island white with snow. Mts. without snow. Saw several Red Phalaropes riding breakers, sailing over "head on", or skipping lightly over a curler. Large flocks of Black Brants flew out in afternoon. Wind moderated about 6:00 p.m. "Ivan" ran away, delaying sailing until 8:00 p.m. Light NW wind, but heavy swell. Wind shifted to SW at 9:00 p.m. Passed Sou'west Sandspit of Herschell Island at 9:45 p.m. and reached Flaxman Point at 11:00 p.m. S.W. wind strong. About eight tents here; stayed 2½ hours until daylight. Somewhat foggy. +30° at 11 p.m. Snow flying.

Scientific specimens listed in this Book.

No.

277. ♀ ~~Erina~~ Pisobia maculata, W. Colville delta, Alaska. June 23, '09
278. ♂ "Ig-nak-i-ri" (head). Polysticta ~~Camptorhynchus~~ stelleri " " " " 18. "
279. ♂ B. canad. hutchinsii " " " " 23. "
280. ♀ Ereunetes pusillus, Colville River delta. " 26. "
281. ♀ Stercorarius parasiticus W. Colville delta. " 27. "
282. ♂ Stercorarius parasiticus " " " " 27. "
283. ♀ Arenaria interpres morinella, Colville R. delta. " 27. "
284. ♀ Caribou sp " " " " 29. "
285. ♀ Caribou " " " " " 29. "
286. ♂ Charadrius squatarola. " " " " 30. "
287. ♀ Gavia ~~arcticus~~ pacifica " " " July 1, "
288. ♂ Gavia ~~fulmine~~ stellata " " " " 4, "
289. ♂ Budytes flavus alascensis " " " 4. "
290. ♀ " " " " " " " 4. "
291. ♀ Sucker ("Miluiak") Catostomus catostomus (Forster). " " " "
292. ♂ Limosa ~~fedoa~~ lapponica baueri " " " " 5, "
293. ♂ Lagopus lagopus " " " " 5, "
294. ♀ Lagopus lagopus " " " " 6, "
295. ♀ Budytes f. alascensis Mouth of Itkillik River " 6. "
296. ♂? Ereunetes pusillus (Juv.) " " " 6. "
297. " Ereunetes pusillus " " " " 6, "
298. " Ereunetes pusillus " " " " 6. "

299. Sex? Ereunetes pusillus, Mouth of ItKillik River. July 6, '09.
300 ♀ Ereunetes pusillus, Colville River delta. June 30, "
301 ♂ Spizella monticola ochracea Colville River delta. July 7, "
302 ♂ Charadrius squatarola " " " " 8, "
303. Sex? C. Lapponicus lapponicus " " " 8, "
304 ♀ Spermophilus parryi, " " " June 30, '09
305. Sex? Anser albifrons gambeli (juv.) " " " July 10, '09
306. " " " " " " " " " 10, "
307. " " " " " " " " " 10, "
308. " " " " " " " " " 10, "
309 ♂ Caribou sp. E. of Colville R. delta. " 12, "
310. ♂ Gavia stellata. " " " " " 13, "
311 ♂ Charadrius dominicus, Gwydyr Bay, " 15, "
312. ♂? Calcarius lapponicus lapponicus " " " 15, "
313. ♀ Larus hyperboreus (?) " " " 16, "
314 ♂ Arctic Fox (juv.) W. of Kuparuk R. " 19, "
315 ♀ " " " " " " " " " 19, "
316. ♂ " " (ad.) " " " " " 19 "
317 ♀ Caribou (fawn) E. side of Kuparuk delta. " 22, "
318. ♀ " ad. " " " " " " 22, "
319. Macrorhamphus griseus scolopaceus (?) jur. " " " " " 25, "
320 Lagopus lagopus jur. " " " " " "

321. Lagopus lagopus jur. E. side of Kuparuk delta. July 25, 1909.
322. ♂ Merganser serrator 119139 (Presented by Tikkuk) Tikkuk Collinson Point. June, 1909
323. ♀ " " 119140 " " " " "
324. ♂ Lagopus lagopus. Demarcation Point. Alaska. Aug. 12, 1909
325. Arctic Fox. (Presented by Kiowa). Near Flaxman Island April, 1909.
326. ♂ Caribou sp. Near Demarcation Pt., Alask. Aug. 14, 1909.
327. Insects (bottle). Colville delta. June 11 - July 14, 1909.
328 " " Kuparuk delta to Flaxman I. July 18 - Aug. 6. 1909.
329.
330.

52

Sets of Eggs, with nests, collected and described in this Book:

Set No.s					
30/2	Tringa maculata.	5mi. W. Colville	Delta, Alaska	June	23-09
31/4	Calcarius lapponicus (lapponicus)	"	"	"	"
32/51	" " "	"	"	"	"
33/51	Branta nigricans	3 mi. W. "	"	"	"
34/5	Plectrophenax nivalis	" "	"	"	24-09
35/6	" " "	"	"	"	"
36/5	Olor columbianus	Colville R.	delta	"	25-09
37/3	Ereunetes pusillus	"	"	"	26-09
38/2	Stercorarius parasiticus	"	"	"	27-09
39/4	Crymophilus fulicarius	"	"	"	"
40/2	Charadrius squatarola	"	"	"	"
41/4	Arenaria morinella (interpres)	"	"	"	"
42/4	" " "	"	"	"	"
43/9	Lagopus lagopus	"	"	"	28-09
44/4	Calcarius lapponicus (lapponicus)	"	"	"	"
45/4	Phalaropus lobatus	"	"	"	29-09
46/4	Crymophilus fulicarius	"	"	"	"
47/4	" "	"	"	"	30-09
48/4	" "	"	"	"	"
49/4	Phalaropus lobatus	"	"	"	"
50/4	Ereunetes pusillus	"	"	"	"
51/51	Branta canadensis hutchinsii	"	"	"	"

Set No's

52/3	Crymophilus fulicarius.	Colville Delta, Alaska.	"	June	30-09
53/4	Tringa maculata	"	"	July	1-09
54/4	Crymophilus fulicarius	"	"	"	"
55/2	Gavia ~~lumme~~ stellata	"	"	"	4-09
56/4	Charadrius squatarola.	"	"	"	8-09
57/4	Crymophilus fulicarius	"	"	"	8-09
58/4	"	"	"	"	"
59/8	Lagopus lagopus	"	"	"	6-09
60/4	Crymophilus fulicarius	"	"	"	10-09
61/2	Gavia ~~lumme~~ stellata	W. Beechey R.	"		13-09.
62/3	Charadrius dominicus	Gwydyr Bay.	"		15-09

Anderson, R.M. Field Notes Book IV

23 Jun 1909--21 Aug 1909

Diary--kept daily about travel, weather, species of animals seen.
--includes a list of specimens, eggs, and nests collected and described in the book.

Route covered--West side of delta of Colville River, Arctic Coast, Alaska; up the Colville to mouth of Itkillik River, down Colville to Buchey Point, east to Flaxman Island, and Demarcation Point, Alaska and Herschel Island, Yukon Territory, Canada.

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--Typewritten, grey with red spine. 26cm X 19.4 cm.

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